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MISS EVELYN BREWSTER. Juvenile Lead. Palladium, Johannesburg.

MISS MABEL BURRELL. The Woman, "Should the Woman Tell?" Dec. 29, Empire, Kingston.

MISS EVELYN CARLETON. Lead, "The Woman Conquers." Dec. 22, Hippo., Wigan. Dec. 29, T.R., Swansea.

MISS MARJORY CARPENTER. Pantomime Season. Grand Theatre, Leeds.

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MISS RENEE DE L'ESTRADE. Ivington, Lorne Park-road, Bournemouth.

MISS LENA DELPHINE. Disengaged. Termination of Mr. J. K. Jerome's Tour. Perm., 25, Oxberry-avenue, Fulham.

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MR. and MRS. A. HEAP (Miss Violet Shirley). Lead, Heavies. Dis. Merry Christmas to all. Address, New Rose and Crown Hotel, Rubery, Birmingham.

MR. C. ALAN HINESON. Liberty, termination of Tour, Jan. 3. Char., Com., &c. This, T.R., Darlington. Next, P., Tynemouth.

MR. FRANK HOWARD. Edwin T. Heys' "Hindle Wakes" Co. Address, Oxford-road, Dukinfield, Cheshire.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD (Miss Carlotta Anson). "To Right His People's Wrongs." Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

MR. and MRS. C. WORDLEY HULSE (Miss Madaline Grande). Leigh-Marquand Repertory. Address, 41, Lillieshall-road, Clapham Common.

MR. P. HUNT-LEWIS. Dis. Juv. Leading Bus., S.M. or A.M. Offers invited. This and next, 16, Oxford-rd., St. James's, Exeter.

MR. WALTER A. JAMES. Disengaged. Stage and Business Management. Character and Comedy. 96, Hight-st., St. Clements, Oxford.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE. Mr. R. H. Lace's Biondello is perfect.—"Burton Daily Mail," June 2, 1913. Hip., Q.P., Manchester. Perm., 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

MR. J. R. LA FANE. Panto., "Cinderella." Lib. Feb. Address, T.R., Bournemouth.

MR. CHARLES LAKE. Business Manager, F. R. Benson, Ltd. (South). Add., Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., W.

MR. C. LEVESON LANE, as the Professor in "The Brass Bottle." Address, en route.

MR. HERBERT LAWRENCE. Season's Greetings to all. Perm., 52, Musgrave-st., Sefton Park, Liverpool.

MR. GEORGE F. LEICESTER. Disengaged. Character Bus., Old Men. 6, Oakden-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

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MR. ARDENE LINDEN. Engaged by Miss Cecile Barclay and Mr. Rupert Lister. This week, 26, Grove-road, Windsor. Next, Theatre Royal, Bath (two weeks).

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MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN. Address, New Theatre, W.C.

MR. & MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY. Address, Palladium, Belfast.

MR. J. T. MACMILLAN. Disengaged. Add., 65, Dumbarton-road, Brixton Hill, S.W.

MR. JERROLD MANVILLE. Character Comedy. Disengaged. 18, Williamson-street, Parkhurst-road, N.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL. Disengaged. 16, Mill-lane, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. WILLIAM MATTHEWS. Offers invited. Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's Co., 6, Jocelyn-road, Richmond.

MR. JACK MELVILLE. Lead, Messrs. Bransgrove and Naughter, "The Ever Open Door" (South Co.) All coms., c/o "The Era."

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MR. and MRS. BERT OATES, 18, Noble-terrace, Gateshead. F. W. Freudenstein (Freeman) please note.

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MR. WALTER PEMBERTON. Disengaged. Character, Comedy, Management. 53, Saltoun-road, Brixton, S.W.

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MR. J. H. ROBERTS. "Fifinella." Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON. Disengaged, Lead, Stage Management, Productions, &c. 25, Guilford-street, London, W.C.

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MR. CHARLES R. STONE. Disengaged. Parts or Produce. 51, Millbrook-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. GEORGE STONE. Resident Manager (twentieth year), Royalty Theatre & Opera H., Barrow-in-Furness.

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MR. and MRS. E. W. THOMAS. Princes Theatre, W., in "The Story of the Rosary." 7, Grafton-sq., Clapham Common, S.W.

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MR. EDWARD VALENTINE. Terminating Tour with Mr. Andrew Melville, Hugh Seymour and Management, "Woman and Wine" Co. Offers invited Jan. 5. Character, Special Parts, Management. Princes T., Portsmouth.

MR. CHARLES VANE. At Liberty. 1, Spencer-road, West Wimbledon.

MR. E. VASSALL-VAUGHAN. At liberty few weeks only. Add., 34, Church-road, Hove.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR. Father Clement, "The Ever Open Door." Aldwych Theatre.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE. Disengaged. 37, Claverton-street, Victoria, S.W.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY. Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand. 'Phone, 3781 Cen. Tel., "Frivolous, Westrand, London."

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MR. CHARLES A. WHITE. Disengaged. Character or Comedy, Old Men, or Production. 1, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS. The Grand Duke, "A Waltz Dream." Victoria Theatre, Burnley, till Jan. 3.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW. Disengaged. 17a, Lissenden-mansions, Highgate-road, N.W.

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MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E., April 6, 13, May 11, 18, 25, June 1, Aug. 3, 10, 17, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., Feb. 16, March 23, April 6, May 4, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, March 16, 30, April 6, 27, May 4 on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, May 25, Aug. 10, 17, 24, Sept. 7, 14, 21, on
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, Aug. 10.
GRAND THEATRE WOLVERHAMPTON, April 6, May 11, 18, 25, June 1, Aug. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, Feb. 16, April 27, May 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, March 9 23 April 6 13 May 11, 25, June 1, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, March 30, April 13, May 18, 25, June 1, 22, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, Feb. 2, March 16, 30, April 6, May 4, 11, Whit Week, August Bank Holiday, and on, with exceptions. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Gipsy Love," &c., &c.
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The Most Charming Theatre on South Coast.
Seating capacity over 1,000.
Holding £120 at ordinary prices.
Open all the year round.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, 16, March 2, 9, 23, Easter, Whit week, and on, with exceptions.
Re dates, apply Jay and Mann.
Other coms., W. R. WALLIS, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Revues and Musical Comedies (no Dramas), COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
Vacant, Feb. 9, March 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON,
Vacant Feb. 2, 9 March 23, 30, on.
E. G. FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, Feb 2, Luton, and Feb. 9, Bedford.
E. G. FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, 16, March 9, on., Panto., Xmas. WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 2 and 16.
Apply, J. E. BULL.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee, Lieut.-Col. Winstanley.
Bookings, first three nights of each week.
WANTED, Companies, for March 2, onwards.
All communications re dates,
ADAMS' AGENCY, Broadmead House, Panton-street, S.W.
Telegrams: "Shrieking, Charles, London."
'Phone, Gerrard 2092.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, FIRST-CLASS ATTRACTIONS, August 3, on.
Address, SIDNEY BACON,
Address, SIDNEY BACON,
143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telegrams, Nocabdis-Ox-London.
Telephone, 1456 Gerrard.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Special Attractions for the weeks of April 6 and 27.
KELLY'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Wanted, first-class Attractions, for the weeks of Feb. 23, March 9 and 30.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
Wanted, High-class Attractions, for the weeks Feb. 16 and April 20.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal.
Telegrams, "Hustler," Birkenhead.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, Feb. 2.
JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE,
General Manager. Winter Gardens.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Feb. 2, April 6.
GRAND THEATRE WEST HARTLEPOOL. April 6.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON. Jan. 26, on, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN, Feb. 9 (3 nights).
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER. April 20, 27, May 4 and 25.
SANLEY ROGERS,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, High-class Companies for Feb. 2, April 6, 20, and May 4.
All communications to
J. CHAS. IMESON, as above.

WANTED, Attraction, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, 16, Weymouth; also Feb. 2, March 16, Woolwich.
Com., CHARLTON MANN, Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL,
SHOTTON COLLIERY, SUNDERLAND.
Manager, F. Allen-Taylor.
WANTED, Dec. 29. Wire.
Good Pantomimes and Novel Attractions.
Also Jan. 17, onwards.

COMPANIES WANTED.

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NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 11, 18, 25, June 8, 15, 22, July 6, 13, 20, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijon Vaudeville
(Arrangements complete).

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Spring and Autumn Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Spring and Autumn Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijon Vaudeville
(Arrangements complete).

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Wanted, Large Theatre, to produce "Cinderella" Pantomime next season.

Wanted, to Let or Sell, on royalty for Stock Season or Tour, several important dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON.
Ravenscourt, Worcester.

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Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Special Attractions for April 6, 13, and 20.
Bookings for 1913 include:—
"Brewster's Millions," "Hindle Wakes," "The Count of Luxembourg," "The Quaker Girl," "Passers-By," "The Dollar Princess," "Princess Caprice," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Milestones," "Miss Lancashire Ltd.," "The Glad Eye," "The Turning Point," "The Headmaster," "The Coastguard's Daughter," "A Royal Divorce," "The Ever Open Door," "Cinderella," "Dick Whittington," "Aladdin," and Geo. Edwardes' "Gipsy Love." Applications for dates.
HUGH ROBERTSON,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only, T.R., DUBLIN.
G.T., DUBLIN, March 16 (?), May 18, 25, on.
O.H., BELFAST, Feb. 2, 23, March 16, 30, April 6, 13, May 18, 25, June 1.
O.H., CORK, Feb. 2, 16, 23, March 2, April 20, 27, May 18.
G.T., SWANSEA, April 6, May 4, June 8.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, March 23 (?), May 18, June 8.
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 2 (?), June 15.
P.P.T., BRIGHTON.
Feb. 2, 23, March 2, 16, and later.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, Spring.
Apply, THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, twice nightly.
Stockport, March 9, 23, 30, April 6 13.
Ashton, March 16, 23, 30, April 20.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

WANTED, Big Attraction, Jan. 19, for Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Pantomime or Revue.
Wire, DOTTRIDGE, 50, Union-st., Oldham.

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A. Hinton ...	Allah's Orchard.
Harry Foxwell...	Broken Heart & Mill Girl.
Will Claze ...	No Mother to Guide Her.
Etc.,	etc., etc.

VACANCIES Jan. 12, 19, 26, March 2 and 9 onwards with exceptions.

All communications to—
HAMILTON & HUGHES,
Central Offices,
BRENDON HOUSE, WIDNES.

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C. CARLTON WALLACE

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Once nightly only,
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First-class Pantomime

would be entertained.

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From PRINCES THEATRE, W.
Vacant Jan. 19, Feb. 9, 23, March 2.

THE WOMAN CONQUERS

Vacant Jan. 5, 26, Feb. 9, March 30.

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Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.
Telephone 983 North.
Telegrams—Walcal, London.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies,
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SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, CLAPHAM. Immediate Dates,
SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, CLAPHAM. Immediate Dates,
Twice nightly,
Twice nightly,
OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
Reply, stating lowest terms, dates, &c.,
SOMERALD AND CO.,
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GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Companies for the following dates:—Feb. 2, April 6 (?), April 20 (?), 27 (?), and May 4. All communications to J. CHAS. IMESON, as above.

NEW HALL,
BARGOED, S. WALES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 23, March 9, 23, 30, April 6.
Will Managers please note that New Tredegar and Blackwood being about two miles distant are both strictly barred.
Apply, A. J. WITHERS.

NEW THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 22 (3 nights); Jan. 26 (3 nights).
G. T. LUCAS, Man. Dir.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Jan. 19, Feb. 9, 23, onwards, with exceptions.
THOS. SWINTON, Queen's Arms Hotel, Widnes.

THE HIPPODROME THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
WANTED, first-class Attractions for weeks of Jan. 12, 19, Feb. 2 (?), March 16, May 4, on.
Apply,
A. HAMILTON WARDEN.

FORESTERS' THEATRE, ALTON, HANTS.
WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 12, Good Concert Party; Panto., Rep. Drama, or Mus. Com.; Var. Com.; stage, 28 x 18; pros. 20; hold 450. Wire for Monday. All coms., GOLD, 8, Anstey-terrace.

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WANTED, Sound Attractions, March 16, 23, April 6, 20, and on, with exceptions.
Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

HIPPODROME, CANNOCK.
WANTED, First-class Pantomimes, Musical Comedies, Dramas, Jan. 12, onwards; modern theatre. Can stage anything. Population of Cannock and district, 60,000. Eight miles from Walsall. Lowest shares or certainty.
B. KENNEDY, Empire, Smethwick.

GRAND THEATRE DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions March 16, April 6 20, and 27.
Also Booking Autumn Dates. Address,
T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

THEATRE ROYAL, GLOSSOP.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Jan. 5 and Jan. 26.
Jan. 5 and Jan. 26.
Address, SYDNEY SPENSER.

WANTED, First-class Companies for the Operetta House, Clacton-on-Sea, for July, August, and September. The bookings include:—"Dollar Princess," "Dolly Reforming Herself," "Girl in the Train," "Open Windows," "Eliza Comes to Stay," "Charley's Aunt," "The Glad Eye," "The Little Damozel."
Apply, FREDERICKS' ELECTRIC THEATRES, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

THE PAISLEY THEATRE.
WANTED, Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 5 (3 nights), March 2, 23.
THE PERTH THEATRE.
Jan. 26, Feb 16 (3), March 2, 16 (3).
Address, SAVILE, as above.

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.
WANTED. High-class Attractions.
CORONET THEATRE, W., Feb. 2, 16, all March, April 6, 13.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE. Feb. 2 (3), 9, 23, March 2, 16.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS, Feb. 16, March 2, 9.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE. Feb. 5 (3), 9, 23, March 9, 16 (3).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, Jan. 19.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH, Jan. 5, 26, and 1914 dates, Big Attractions.
H. W. ROWLAND, CORONET THEATRE, W.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Feb. 23, March 9, 16, 30.
Address, LAWSON LAMBERT, as above.

WANTED, Companies, Okehampton, Devon, The Pretoria. Licensed for Stage Plays. Rent, £1 each performance, payable when dates booked. E. Light, Chairs, Stage, &c., included.

WANTED, Good Companies; Musical preferred. Vacant Dec. 25, Jan. 5, 12, for Pantomime.
Apply, H. TERRY WOOD,
Theatre Royal, Ryde.

WANTED, Companies Touring Scotland to Book Inverness Theatre Royal. Vacant dates from Jan. 15 onwards.
CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Eugène C. Stafford.
Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1914.
WANTED, Managers with Big Attractions to apply for dates to EUGENE C. STAFFORD, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich. The Theatre that is taking the Money. Vacant Jan. 19, March 2, 9, 16, 23 (?), April 20, 27 (?), May 11, 18, 26 (?).

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, Wanted, Musical Comedies, Whit, and Season 1914.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN,
Manager.
Palladium, Belfast.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Feb. 16, March 2, April 6, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, onwards with exceptions. ALFRED MANNERS as above.

GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 26, Feb. 23, March 16, 23, 30.
HARRY W. DAY.

PARK THEATRE,
HANWELL, W.
Proprietor, J. Campbell Johnstone.
WANTED, First-class Companies, January, February, and March, Musical Comedies, Comedies, and Pantomimes. Stage, 35ft. by 28ft. Proscenium opening, 20ft. Bookings include: "The Headmaster," "Raffles," "Charley's Aunt," &c., &c.
All communications, W. PAYNE SEDDON, 10-11, Jermyn-street, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Sedonitic, Piccy, London."

THEATRES WANTED.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE" CO.
A New Musical Play.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 12, Feb. 2.
CHARLES LOCKE, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.
Next, T.R., West Bromwich.

"ANN." From Criterion Theatre.
WANTED, Jan. 12, 19, Feb. 2, 16, April 20.
HALDANE CRICHTON, Town Hall, Stourbridge.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett. 125th week.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 12, 19, Feb. 2, 16, &c.
W. V. GARROD,
63, Holmewood-gardens, Brixton-hill, S.W.

Dalston Theatre, LONDON, N.E.

J. LANGDON LEE

Late Licensee and Manager, Theatre Royal, Plymouth,
Late Lessee and Manager, Grand Theatre, Plymouth,

Has the honour to announce to his Brother Managers and the Profession generally that he has acquired a long lease of the above Important Property.

Vacant Spring Dates, Feb. 16, March 23, April 6, May 4.

AUTUMN PENCILLINGS FILLING IN

The High Traditions of Dalston Theatre will be steadily maintained.

WANTED

First Class Musical and Dramatic Attractions.

All communications to—
J. LANGDON LEE,
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, for Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece, "MONTE CRISTO."
From the New Princes Theatre, W.
The entire production carried.
Vacant Jan. 12, 19, Feb. 2, onwards.
ANDREW EMM, Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.

WANTED, for "WOMAN AND WINE," by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck.
From the New Princes Theatre, W.
Jan. 5, 12, 19, onwards.
ANDREW EMM, Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Dec. 29, and Jan. 19, Feb. 2 and 9.
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."
ANDREW EMM, Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Feb. 2 and 9.
"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
A. MELVILLE, Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
For this Phenomenal Attraction,
Week of Feb. 9 and 23.
Week of Feb. 9 and 23.
Week of Feb. 9 and 23.
Week of Feb. 9 and 23.
Week of Feb. 9 and 23.
Wire or write to
W. W. KELLY,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
Telegraphic address: "Hustler," Birkenhead.

"MADAME DE MORAY'S SECRET."
A Perfect Production.
WANTED, Dec. 26, 27, 29, Jan. 5, on, with exceptions.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Town Hall, Hitchin, Herts.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, and on.
North or Scotland.
J. PITT HARDACRE.
157, Kennington Park-road,
London, S.E.

WANTED, first-class Theatres, for C. Adolf Seebold's "Little Red Riding Hood" pantomime. Magnificent production, beautiful dresses, first-class company of over forty artistes. Production at the Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth. Only clear stage required, cloth 32ft., flats 18ft., must be large stage. Wanted, Feb. 2 and 9, to follow Artillery Theatre, Woolwich. All communications to C. ADOLF SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

"SILVER KING" CO.
POLINI and MELFORD.
WANTED, Dates, Feb. 2, Feb. 2, Feb. 2.
POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Mr. Tom B. Davis's Co.,
"THE SCARLET BAND,"
with Entire London Production, from the Comedy Theatre,
Aug. 17, 24, Sept. 28, Oct. 26, on.
(Spring Tour complete.)
Apply, LESLIE MORETON,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

DOUGHTY-LESLIE REPERTORY COMPANY.
"OLIVER TWIST."
"MASKS AND FACES." "MONEY."
"GEOFFREY STIRLING" (Banker and Thief), and
"A MAN'S SHADOW,"
from His Majesty's and Haymarket Theatres.
WANTED, Jan. 12, and on.
HENRY DOUGHTY,
23, Hugh-street, Victoria, S.W.
Next week, Queen's, Leeds.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, April 27, July 27, Aug. 3, onwards.
Letters, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls having large stage and large holding capacity, for
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Colossal and Gorgeous Pantomime Production of
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
Managers are cordially invited to see the production for themselves Monday, Dec. 22, at the LYRIC THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Vacant,
Feb. 2 (Midlands), to precede Smethwick, and Feb. 16 to follow.
Once or twice nightly.
Share or certainty.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON, Queen's Arms Hotel, Widnes.

WANTED, Theatres, Easter Week, for New Drama Production. New plant of Lithos. Printing. Splendid Scenery.
FABER, 2, Rupert-court, Wardour-street, W.

"READY MONEY."
WANTED, Wanted Known, Vacant Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9.
FABER, 2, Rupert-court, Wardour-street, W.

"DOLLY REFORMING HERSELF."
By Henry Arthur Jones.
WANTED Known, vacant Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23.
FABER, 2, Rupert-court, Wardour-st., W.

"BUILDER OF BRIDGES."
By Alfred Sutro.
WANTED Known, vacant Feb. 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23.
FABER, 2, Rupert-court, Wardour-street, W.

"WRECKER OF MEN."
By C. Watson Mill.
WANTED Known, vacant Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 23, May 4.
FABER, 2, Rupert-court, Wardour-street, W.

"BONNIE MARY" CO.
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 29, Jan. 19.
CHARLES LOCKE, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.
Next, T.R., West Bromwich.

WANTED Jan. 5, Jan. 5.
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
Wire, Knowles.
T. R., Swansea.

THE RAYNOR REP. COMPANY.
"Moths," "Nell Gwynne," &c.
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 23, between Met., Gateshead, and Liverpool.
Address, Managers' Club, London.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE" and "SHERLOCK HOLMES" COS.
(Once or Twice Nightly.)
WANTED, Feb. 23 (North), March 9, 16 (Lancs). H. HAMILTON STEWART, 82, Brunswick-street, Manchester.

"THE SLAVE GIRL."
A Story of America's Fight for Freedom.
Full Drama Company and Troupe.
Clever Negro Artistes in Song Dance, and Choruses.
WANTED, Known, only Vacancies, April 13, 20, 27, May 11, 25, June 1. Always big business.
Wire or write, T. E. WARD, Gaiety, Burnley.

GRAND PANTOMIME,
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 12, 19, for this production; a splendid show; lovely costumes; first-class vocalist; splendid dances; funny comedians. Produce here Boxing Day. Proprietors and Managers invited to see the Show. Thanks for offers; must have terms; I travel 37 people.
BARRETT, Grand Hippodrome, Colchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
Vacant Jan. 5 and 12 (Wales).
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
All Star Cast, including:—

Jerrold Heather.	Cavering Craig.
Colin F. Heather.	Stephen C. Venner.
E. Hall Eldon.	George Shreeve.
Eustace Day.	Fred Dalby.
Mary Dalby.	Hilda Shirley.
Marie E. Cotton.	Doris Brereton.
Eva St. Vincent.	Mabel Ray.

Vacant Jan. 5 and 12, follow June. T., Manchester.
WANTED, Jan. 5 and 12.
FRED. BULMER.
Junction Theatre, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. WILSON BENGE and No. 1 Co.
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
The Mascot Money Maker.
Vacant, March 2, 9, 15 (Wales), 23 (precede Yarmouth), Easter, few onward, including good Summer Dates.
Same Vacant Dates for
"THE COWBOY'S WEDDING."
Another Success.
WANTED, March 2, various, onwards. Note my booking: Osborne, Manchester; Metropole, Manchester; Palace, Newcastle (two weeks); Alexandra, Sheffield (two weeks); Gaiety, Dundee (two weeks); Grand, Glasgow; Court, Wigan; Grand, Brighton; T.R., Leeds; Prince's, Bradford; South Shields; Woolwich; Stratford, &c.
These pieces do the business; beautifully mounted and well played. Refer any theatre.
Wire
WILSON BENGE.
Xmas week, Opera House, St. Helens.
New Year week, Gaiety T., Houghton, Co. Durham

MISS GRACE WARNER & CO.
in
"THE SCARLET CLUE."
"THE SCARLET CLUE."
"THE SCARLET CLUE."
"THE SCARLET CLUE."
Or Repertoire of six pieces.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 5.
Between Stafford and Newcastle.
Also
Jan. 26, Jan. 25,
Feb. 2, Feb. 2.

This, Empire, Cowdenbeath.
Next, Playhouse, Stratford.

FRANK WEATHERSBY'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Dates, "The Thief," "Witness for Defence," "Second in Command," "Pair of Spectacles," "Importance of Being Earnest."
3, Bedford-street, W.C.

TRAVIS GREEN & GRAHAM WINSFORD'S Co.
"THE PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE."
By H. F. Housden.
WANTED Wanted. Dec. 29,
Dec. 29,
Dec. 29,
Dec. 29,
Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 23.
Fifteen First-class Artistes. Horse travelled.
Parade (Horses).
Wire for Dec. 29.
1,000 Sheets Printing and Agent Ready.
Theatre Royal, Leicester.

MR. CHAS. HALLING'S CO.
"DELIVER US FROM EVIL."
"DELIVER US FROM EVIL."
"DELIVER US FROM EVIL."
"DELIVER US FROM EVIL."
"DELIVER US FROM EVIL."
"DELIVER US FROM EVIL."
WANTED, for this First-class Production, Theatres, with good stage facilities.
Vacant, April 13, 20, May 4, 18.
All communications to CHAS. HALLING, This, Grand, Cheadle, Staffs.
Next, Albert, Brighouse.

"BONNIE MARY" CO.
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 29,
Jan. 19.
CHARLES LOCKE, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.
Next, T.R., West Bromwich.

DOT STEPHENS
and Company in
"A CHILD OF THE STREETS."
WANTED, Jan. 5 (through fire, Wolverhampton), Feb. 16 (to oblige a local manager).
Enormous business everywhere.
Wire,
DOT STEPHENS, T.R., Leicester.

Sam Livesey's Tour.
"A HERITAGE OF HATE."
WANTED, Feb. 2, 16, March 9. Everything carried. Clear Stage only required.
Wire for Feb. 2.
GEO. E. CARLETON, 85, Boston-st., Hulme, Manchester.

FREDERIC BAUGH
AND
FRED MOULE'S
COMPANIES.

THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC
VACANT—JAN. 5, 12, 19.
This Week — WORKMAN'S HALL, EBBW VALE.
Next Week — PICTUREDROME, DEVONPORT.

THE WORST GIRL OF ALL
DEC. 26, PALACE, BOW (8 nights.)
Vacant—Jan. 5, and various on.
Both of the above are playable either once or twice nightly.

HELLO, LONDON!
Dec. 26—GRAND, FULHAM (8 Nights).
Vacant (through obliging)—Jan. 5 (?), 12, 19.

Re dates
153, Capworth Street, Leyton, or
FREDERIC BAUGH,
Sadler's Wells Theatre, E.C.
Telegrams: Stageyness, London.
Phone; Central, 5890.

By friendly and mutual arrangement with Mr. Arthur Jefferson, we shall do our own booking in the future.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
ED. LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, Jan. 5, Jan. 5, Jan. 5, Feb. 9, and Easter.
"Consistent in plot and construction."
"Brimful of genuine comedy."
"Excellently mounted and carefully portrayed."
A real attraction.
Everything carried.
Refer, Mr. Arthur Jefferson, Metropole, Glasgow; Mr. Charles Bush, Queen's, Leeds; Mr. A. E. Abrahams, T.R., Stratford. Mr. Leon Salberg, Alexandra, Birmingham. Or management of any theatre visited.
EDWARD LLOYD, Palace, Clay Cross.

"MAN TO MAN."
This Never Failing Attraction has now completed its
29th Year of Tour.
WANTED, Easter, April 27, May 4.
LLOYD AND BOWN, 32, Church-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

KENNETH RIVINGTON
and GEORGE HOWARD'S
COMPANY,
in the Great American Drama by Hal Reid,
"HUMAN HEARTS."
"HUMAN HEARTS."
"HUMAN HEARTS."
"HUMAN HEARTS."
"HUMAN HEARTS."
"HUMAN HEARTS."
WANTED, Wapted, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 26,
Jan. 26,
Feb. 2 (to precede Middlesbrough),
Feb. 23 (to precede Batley),
March 16 (to follow Kelly's, Liverpool),
April 6 (to follow Alexandra, Hull),
and
Easter week.
Easter week.
Apply,
re dates only,
Macdonald and Young,
33, Lisle-street, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Leserpo, Westrand, London."
'Phone, Gerrard 1299.
All other communications,
RIVINGTON AND HOWARD,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

TRAVIS GREEN'S CO.
"HER FATAL MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Jan. 12, 26, Feb. 2, 16, March 16, and few later.
JERROLD HEATHER as Zaco.
HILDA SHIRLEY as Myra.
TRAVIS GREEN,
Parkside, Burton-road, Brixton, S.W.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE" CO.
A New Musical Play.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 12,
Feb. 2.
CHARLES LOCKE, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.
Next, T.R., West Bromwich.

WANTED Known, Wire for Jan. 5.
Wire for Jan. 5.
Wire for Jan. 5, 19, 26
Wire for Jan. 5, 19, 26
Wire for Jan. 5, 19, 26
Wire for Jan. 5, 19, 26
Wire for Jan. 5, 19, 26
Feb. 2, 9, 23, Easter, May 1, 25,
Feb. 2, 9, 23, Easter, May 1, 25,
June 8 and various onwards.
HERBERT FULLER'S Star Company,
"MOTHERLESS."
"MOTHERLESS."
"MOTHERLESS."
"MOTHERLESS."
Cast of 17. Everything Carried. Refer Osborne T., Manchester, and Hippodrome, Bolton, re last two weeks.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
Cast of 15. All Carried. Vacant Feb. 9, 23, March 16, 30, Easter, and various onwards. Re both tours, H. FULLER, Public Hall, Scunthorpe.
Next, T.R., Stanley.

FREDERIC BAUGH and FRED MOULE.
WANTED, Wanted Known,
have vacant for
"THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC."
"THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC."
Jan. 5, 12, 19.

"THE WORST GIRL OF ALL."
"THE WORST GIRL OF ALL."
Jan. 12, and various on.

"HELLO! LONDON."
"HELLO! LONDON."
Jan. 12, 19, and few Spring.
Address, Sadler's Wells Theatre, E.C.
Wire, "Stageyness, London."
'Phone, Central 5890.

FRED MOULE and Co. in
"DEAR OLD GEORGE."
Dec. 15, Hippodrome, Lewisham (3rd visit this year).
Dec. 22, Hippo., Woolwich.
WANTED Known, Agents and Managers Please Note, Several Spring Dates Vacant.
'Phone, Central 5890.

Messrs. LODGE PERCY, EDWARD DARBEY, and Miss HENRIETTA SCHRIER present
"THE WOMAN HE WANTED,"
By Lodge Percy and Henrietta Schrier.
"THE SHADOW OF THE GUILLOTINE,"
by Edward Darbey.
WANTED, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 16, and Easter, for either (or both Plays where change of Bill desired).
Messrs. LODGE PERCY and DARBEY, This, King's, Worksop. Next, Empire, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Jan. 5, 12, 19, and 26, "The Girl Who Wronged Her Husband," "Under Two Flags." E. STRATHMORE, 101, Guinness-buildings, Vauxhall, London.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN,"
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED, Jan. 19, to follow Cork and precede Derry; Feb. 23, March 2, 9.

LOOK OUT FOR
Special Spring Tour of
The Romantic Irish Play,
"ST. PATRICK'S EVE."
Dennis Mackey as Terence O'More,
and Powerful Company.
ALL SPECIAL SCENERY.
ENTIRE NEW AND SPECIAL PRINTING.
Wanted, dates, March 30, on, with exceptions.

Palladium, Belfast.

"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
Frank Fenton as Hilary Jesson.
Supported by No. 1 Company.
WANTED Known, write for Spring and Summer Vacancies,
FRANK FENTON,
4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."
By Chas. Darrell.
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26.
TOM H. TAYLOR, this week, West London Theatre.

THE WORLD-FAMOUS RUSSIAN BALLET.
THE WORLD-FAMOUS RUSSIAN BALLET.
WANTED, for No. 1 Company, Jan. 5 week (follow Torquay), Jan. 15 (three nights), Jan. 19 week (precede Reading), Feb. 9 (three nights, precede Oxford), Feb. 19 (three nights).
Special Scenery and Musicians carried. STAR SYNDICATE, 15, Great Russell-street, W.C.
Cables: "Yokefellow London." 'Phone: 5668 Central.

WANTED, YAMAMOTO and KOYOSHI TROUPE, Japanese Equilibrists.
This week, Hippodrome, Hamilton.
Vacant, Jan. 5, 12, 19, and from April 20, on.
Theatres Wanted for Own First-class Combination.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, a Young Lady, about 17; small; with Good, Strong, Soprano Voice; one that can dance preferred. Apply, with songs. Permanent engagement. "PARKS," 78, New Park-road, Brixton Hill.

INEZ HOWARD'S COMPANY.
WANTED, join immediately, Smart Young Lady for small part, understudy, and combine light wardrobe duties. Age, height, references, photos, terms,
CLAUDE AYMOND,
Grand Hall Aberavon.

MR. C. WATSON MILL'S COS.
WANTED, for the above, to rehearse Jan. 5, Good, Sound, Heavy Man, Responsible Man, Comedian, and Chambermaid, also Carpenter, to combine Baggage and speak lines. All must be tall. Address, with full particulars, age, height, last two references (applied for), to C. WATSON MILL, "Rivington," Dragon-road, Harrogate. 'Phone, 644 Harrogate.

WANTED, for "Under Two Flags" Tour, Lady for Cigarette, Comedian for Rakes, Two Resp. Gents; rehearse this week; low terms for long tour; photos, refs. STRATHMORE, 101, Guinness-buildings, Vauxhall, S.E.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE" CO.
WANTED, Juvenile Man, First-class Heavy Man, Robust Character Old Man, Robust Character Old Woman (Mrs. Hatzell type). References, lowest terms, photos, and all particulars, CHARLES LOCKE, Stonehyrst-terrace, Dewsbury.
Next, T.R., West Bromwich.

WANTED, for fit-up répertoire, good, powerful Leading Man, Comedian, and Juvenile Man; also Lady. Those doing turns preferred. Full particulars, R. LENA, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, Tenor, who can do Comedy; state age, height and salary. Address,
Box 5,769,
"The Era."

WANTED, for Potted Plays (through gross breach of contract), good Responsible Gentleman (play juv., heavies, &c.), Lady to double Juveniles and Character; rehearse here immediately; open Monday. Wire lowest terms, references, HERBERT BARRS, Pavilion, Airdrie.

WANTED, Comedian, capable of Jew's Part; must sing.
GRACE WARNER,
Arcade Hotel, Cowdenbeath, N.B.

WANTED, Good, Smart Comedy Comedian, N. district preferred; must patter, sing, and dance well, to join straight comedian. All coms., COMEDIAN, 5, City-mansions, North-rd., Holloway.

WANTED, experienced Actor to Play Captain Kettle for Cinema in England and North Africa. Apply, CAPTAIN KETTLE FILMS, Ltd., Towers Hall, Bradford.

WANTED, Gentleman for Light Comedy and Character Parts. Also First-class Responsible Man. State next week's address. Old members wire.
LODGE PERCY,
This, King's, Worksop; next, Empire, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Two First-class Contraltos, to open Jan. 19; long tour. Apply, SANDY McNAB, 39, Hilldrop-crescent, London, N. Or 'phone 2852 North for appointment.

WANTED (portable), Responsible Lady and Gent; play in panto.; do good turn; open at once; fares arranged. Wire or write; age, height, and lowest. A. JOHNSON, Britannia T., Melksham, Wilts.

WANTED, to open Friday, Dec. 26, really good Responsible Lady and Gent. with Turn. Terms, refs., &c., to HARRY MAITLAND, Public Hall, Longriggend, Scot. Money low, but sure.

WANTED, Good Responsible Lady and Gent.; open at once; used to portables; artistes with turns write. JAMES, Theatre, Brigstock, near Thrapston.

CINEMA "SPEAKING" ARTISTES.
WANTED, Monday, First Professional Lady and Gent (young, heavy leads preferred) who can invent "gag" dialogue and declaim distinctly behind the screen; long engagement to clever couple. Write terms DOVE PATERSON, The Coliseum, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Principals, Choristers, for Grand Opera; Choristers able to Dance, Play Small Parts preferred; repertoire, photo, lowest terms, stamped envelope. Box 5,771, "The Era."

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen desiring Chorus and Principal Engagements in Operas, Musical Comedy, &c., experience unnecessary; beginners coached. Write for appointment. W. COOPER-LISSENDEN (Licensed by L.C.C.), 34, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

CHORUS
WANTED, for an Operatic Production at a London Music Hall.
Address, A. S., 46a, Pall-mall, S.W.

WANTED, Carpenters and Baggage Men, to open immediately.
BAUGH and MOULE,
Sadler's Wells Theatre, London, E.C. Call or write.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by high-class young Leading Lady; West End credentials; extensive London and provincial experience. Box 5,767, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Comedians, Trio, or Quartette of Dancers Geni of the Ring and Chorus Ladies, at once. GEORGE AYTOUN, Pantomime Agent, 7, Prima-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, good, all-round Acrobatic Dancer, able to do Tricks; good run; 35s. weekly to competent dancer. Address, with full pars., age, height, &c., W. K. SCOTT, c/o 2, New Bailey-st., Salford, Manchester.

JAZON and MONTGOMERY'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Chorus Ladies; rehearse immediately. Apply, stating terms, refs., with photograph and full pars., Rotunda T., Liverpool.

WANTED, to Rehearse Immediately, smart Chorus Lady.
Age, lowest terms, height and photo,
E. G. FALCON, Empire Theatre, Southend.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers, who may have a disappointment, to wire or write, GEO. AYTOUN, Pantomime Agent, 7, Prima-rd., Brixton, S.W. I have all you may require. Telegrams, "Antics, London."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Competent Operator, at once; must be used to Limes and willing to make himself generally useful. Apply, with absolutely lowest terms, references, experience, &c., to GRAHAME HYLTON, Picturedrome, Long Buckby, Northants.

WANTED, Wanted, Good Operator.
Can open at once.
Letters only, with reference,
1, Priory-mansions, England's-lane, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Reliable Man for Carpenter and Baggage. Capable of lines. To open Leeds next Monday. Apply, HENRY DOUGHTY, 23, Hugh-street, Victoria, S.W.

WANTED, Assistant Carpenter and Wardrobe Mistress, for 24 weeks' tour. Open Jan. 4.
Apply, S. C. SINCLAIR,
Aldwych Theatre.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, at once, a Really First-class Mechanic-Carpenter, with own full tools, for well-known Oriental Illusion Show; capable of taking full charge and be useful; touring Continent also. Absolutely reliable, sober, and first-class man need apply with fullest particulars; lowest salary (permanency); last references (copies), &c., to LINGA SINGH, Hippodrome, Lowestoft. Next, Hippo., Margate.

WANTED, Carpenter, own tools, capable small parts; sobriety indispensable.
GRACE WARNER, The Arcade Temperance Hotel, Cowdenbeath, N.B.

WANTED, Fit-up Man, to assist Baggage; one who could go in advance if necessary; state experience, lowest terms.
Box 5,770, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced General Manager; liberty Jan. 5 or 12.
Pictures, Drama, Varieties.
J. ROLMAZ, Palace, Rothesay.

WANTED, by Stage Manager, Re-engagement with good Drama. Just finished 15 weeks' Tour. Combine parts. Height 5ft. 8in. Splendid refs. Worker. S.M., 21, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C. 'Phone, 2633 Gerrard.

WANTED, as Acting Manager, by Good Pianist-Organist; exp. Pictures, Variety, &c.; extemporiser; thoroughly reliable; ex. refs.; cash security. LAY, junr., Hellingly, Sussex.

WANTED Known, WM. DICKENSON, Advance Agent, lib.; experienced bill'r and bill inspector; 10 years with the Northern Touring Exhibition; energetic and reliable worker. Write, 28, Croydon-rd., Bournbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by CORNELIUS MOORE, Carpenter, practical bench hand; first-class refs. Thanks G. Langdon for offer.
7, Marlborough-grove, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by first-class practical Carpenter; bench-hand, tools, abstainer; good refs.; fifteen years' exp.; fit-ups or theatres; any distance. Wire or write, JAMES, c/o G.P.O., Lancaster.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Musical Director, with Vaudeville experience preferred; must be able to Orchestrate and Arrange, and must also be a capable Accompanist. A contract for two years will be given for a competent man.
Apply, immediately, with full particulars of experience, age, references, and salary required, to
WILL COLLINS & CO.
Broadmead House, Panton-st., Haymarket, S.W.

WANTED, Piano-Conductor, Violin, 'Cello, Pictures, near Newcastle-on-Tyne; open February. Good sal. to good men. Only Musicians need apply. W. A. CROSSE, M. D., 14, Nuns Moor-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor and Full Orchestra; open Monday next; Pictures, Varieties.
Apply, TOLFREE,
Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, for Clydebank Theatre, varieties and pictures; thoroughly experienced and capable of extemporising. Fullest particulars, PICKARD, Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.

NEW THEATRE, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Wanted, Capable Leader.
Open Boxing.
Wire terms and refs., MANAGER.

WANTED, for the R.M.S.P. Co.'s Liners, Leader, and Solo Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists. Apply to ENOS GREENE, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

BOSTOCK CIRCUIT.
WANTED, to open Jan. 5, Leader; fully experienced in Varieties; terms 37s. 6d.; A.M.U. Refs., &c., to RICHARDSON, M.D., Hippodrome, Hamilton.

WANTED, Violin Leader for Pavilion, Motherwell. Must be thoroughly experienced in Pictures and Varieties. Apply, in writing, giving qualifications and copy of references and when at liberty, to THOS. ORMISTON, F.C.I.S., 18, Brandon-street, Motherwell.

WANTED, for Musical Play, "Mousmé," at Heckmondwike, week commencing Jan. 19, First-class. Experienced Musicians (Leader, 1st and 2nd Violins, Viola, 'Cello, D.B. Flute, Oboe, and Bassoon), for one week including one matinée. Apply, stating experience, and enclosing references and lowest terms, to
J. BATES,
Mus.-Director, 1, Ashworth-terrace, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contrabassists, to Register for Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black's (Atlantic Liner) Orchestras.

Applicants required to attend audition in Liverpool or London.

State age, experience, and give two responsible references for personal character.

Apply by letter, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Violinist to Lead Variety and Standard Works, A.M.U.; open Monday; refs. and age (sobriety essential) to CONDUCTOR, 25, Port-street, Stirling.

WANTED, Violinists (Ladies), First-class Leader, Second 1st, and 'Cellist, for West End Restaurant; commence Jan. 1. Permanency.
FISHER, 406, Fulham-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, for Band,
Royal Marines, Chatham,
Thoroughly Capable Cornet Player,
to Double Violin preferred.
No sea service. Good Prospects.
Apply, Mr. C. HOBY, Mus. Bac. (Oxon), Bandmaster.

WANTED, Good Cornet, open Saturday or Monday, Hippodrome, Greenock; N.F.P.M., or those willing to join, only need apply; 35s. Wire or write to FRED YOUNG, Secretary, 71, Scott-street, Garnet-hill, Glasgow.

BRINE BATHS ORCHESTRA, DROITWICH.
WANTED, an experienced Clarinet for the above orchestra; permanency for right man. Only good players need apply. Terms and refs., MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, to open immediately, First-class Clarinet.
Latest references and terms. Address,
T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

MR. GEORGE MALLIN'S TOURS.
WANTED, First-class Double Bass, also Cornet and Clarinet, young and steady, used to variety and panto. Long tour, Ireland. Open Dec. 26, Westport. Reply, Cinema Theatre, Westport.

WANTED, Double Bass.
Must be experienced in Drama and Variety.

State age, lowest terms, and latest references to
MARK H. LINDON,
Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

BOSTOCK CIRCUIT.
WANTED, to open Dec. 29 or Jan. 5, good D Bass; fully experienced in Varieties; 35s.; A.M.U. Refs., &c., to RICHARDSON, M.D., Hippodrome, Hamilton.

WANTED, for Musical Act, good Trombone; single, young, and steady; commence Jan. 12; fares paid after joining. State lowest terms, Box 5,768, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Trombone; open Monday; Variety and Pictures.
CHAS. KEETON, M.D.,
Town Hall, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

BLACKBURN THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Viola and Trombone; thoroughly experienced in standard works, &c.; open Monday, Jan. 5. Terms, age, references, to W. T. GREENE, M.D., 297, Blackburn-road, Darwen, Lancs.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN.
APPOINTMENT OF CITY ORGANIST.
WANTED Known, the undersigned are authorised to receive applications for the above appointment. Salary, £200 per annum. Engagement for one year certain; thereafter, three months' notice. The Organist is to give about fifty evening (probably Sunday) and twenty-five afternoon recitals during the year, and to co-operate with the Musical Director regarding Musical Festivals and Entertainments. Private practice allowed providing it does not interfere with duties. Second class passage paid. Applications, which should be accompanied by copies of not less than three testimonials, must be delivered to the undersigned not later than noon on Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1913.
DAVIS & SOPER,
Agents of the Corporation of the City of Cape Town, 54, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C. Dec. 17, 1913.

WANTED, 'Cellist (lady preferred), immediately for Trio; cinema; no Sunday work. Apply, Miss BOURNE, L.R.A.M., 8, Milner-street, Newark, Notts.

WANTED, 'Cello and Trombone, for two weeks, commencing Dec. 29, Theatre.
23, Mayfield-grove, Harrogate.

WANTED, 'Cello Player; must be used to Variety; open immediately; Flute, Piccolo, also write. STONE, Musical-Director, Hippodrome, Warrington, Lancs.

WANTED, 'Cellist and Viola, for Cinema, near Glasgow.
Evenings only. Apply, CONDUCTOR, 63, Craig-bank, Albert-road, Gourock, N.B.

WANTED, Violin, 'Cello, Clarinet; experienced Mus. Com.; steady, reliable; open at once; age, terms, refs.
B. O'BRIEN, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

HIPPODROME, ROTHERHAM.
WANTED, Oboe and Drums; must be used to first-class variety. Full particulars, references, &c., to
SIMPSON, Conductor.

WANTED, Quartette, Pianist, Organist, Violinist, and Clarinet Player, for pictures and variety; preference given to man who can play and conduct high-class music.
Highest reference and testimonials required.

Apply, stating terms, by Jan. 2, 1914, to
MANAGER,
Workmen's Hall,
Abertridwr.

WANTED, Good Pianist for Granville Music Hall, Walham Green; must be well up in Variety Business; open Monday.
FRANK THOMAS, 35, Gresham-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Flautist and Piccolo, to open Jan. 5; must be thoroughly experienced in drama and variety; state age, lowest terms, and latest references, to MARK H. LINDON, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, shortly, for Band of Household Cavalry Regiment, a good Drummer; must be thoroughly competent for mounted and usual band work; cavalry man preferred.
Apply to RUDALL, CARTE, AND CO., LTD., 23, Berners Street, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Good Double Drummer, for all-round theatre business.
Lowest terms to
Box 5,766, "The Era."

WANED, for Royal Hippodrome, Dublin, Drummer. Apply, stating age and giving names for references to
JOHN MOODY, Musical-Director.

HARROGATE MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Strings, to combine E Flat Clarinet, Clarinets, Cornet, Bombardon; 20 weeks, from June 2 next.
Only experienced men need apply.
JULIAN CLIFFORD,
Musical-Director, Kursaal, Harrogate.

WANTED, Ladies' all instruments, experienced picture pianists, also brass and wood winds, for new music hall production; must be good soloists. Exp. and terms, Karl's Tyrolese Ladies' Orchestras. 99, Brick-lane, Shoreditch.

THE NATIONAL ORCHESTRAL ASSOCIATION,
13-14, Archer-street, Soho, London, W.
WANTED, Professional Orchestral Players not attached to any Protective Society should hasten to join the above. Reduced entrance fee. Managers and conductors provided with instrumentalists, pianists, or conductors.
Military or String Bands of any number supplied.
All the principal players of London are members.
Address, SECRETARY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Musicians to communicate with Birmingham Branch Secretary, A.M.U. Club, Dalton-street, before accepting any engagement in that city.

WANTED, A.M.U. Musicians, before accepting engagements in Manchester, to write the BRANCH SECRETARY, A.M.U. Club, 120a, Oxford-road, Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Musical Director (pianist); over 20 years' experience Opera (Gilbert and Sullivan, &c.), Musical Comedy. Excellent references. Free now. CONDUCTOR, 1, Hillfield-gardens, Muswell Hill, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Musical Director (36), Baton, Viola, Violin; smart Variety or Theatre; London, Provincial experience.
FREDERIC FULLER, M.D., Palace, Doncaster.

WANTED, by Violinist-Conductor-Composer (with Lady Pianist), Engagement, Pictures. Extensive Repertoire. High-class Music. Experienced. Orchestra, or will go Joint.
57, High-street,
Collier's Wood, S.W.

WANTED, Known, First-class Variety Conductor (non-union), desires Appointment in first-class music hall; 15 years' experience; smart, steady, reliable and gentlemanly; excellent references; good library of standard works; only first-class appointment entertained. Address, first instance, Box 5,744; "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Conductor-Violinist. Compose, Arrange (piano for rehearsals); disengaged Dec. 31, Panto.
TAGGART, Harold-road Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement by Pianist-Conductor, Pedal Organist; first-class accompanist, extemporiser; good appearance; pictures, concerts, or hotel; good offers only; home or abroad.
Box 5,772, "The Era."

WANTED Known, First-class Violinist-Conductor at liberty now; Music Hall, Theatre, or Tour.
Address, CONDUCTOR, 25, Regent-rd., Hanley.

WANTED, Wanted, Engagement as Violin, can Combine Clarinet.
Good refs.
Any business.
A. C., 18, Clitheroe-road, Clapham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Violinist; any business; excellent refs., &c.
Write, EVANS,
65, Shakespeare-road, Herne Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Jan. 1, 1914, Cornet Soloist (brilliant).
Thoroughly Experienced. Total Abstainer.
Four String Bass if required.
A. PRICE,
89, Alexandra-road, Abertillery, Mon.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Picture House, First-class Quartette (Piano, Violin, 'Cello, and Flute and Piccolo), Library of over 2,000 numbers Classical, Operatic, and Up-to-date Music. Tubular Bells and other Effects. Disengaged Jan. 5. Our latest reference from one who knows:—Palace Cinema, Rothesay, 20/12/13. Dear Mr. Lorrance,—As the season will terminate a fortnight hence, I think it only fair to let you know that your orchestra has been everything a cinema house band should be. It has won a most deservedly good reputation as the best in Rothesay. Praise from Press, public, and directors, and all who have heard the ever-changing, classic, and up-to-date programmes should be a source of pleasure and future A1 engagements. With all good wishes to the members of your orchestra and yourself.—Yours faithfully (signed), J. ROLMAZ. Gen. Manager.
P.S.—You can say this is given unsolicited by a caterer of wide experience.—J. Rolmaz, late Gen. Manager (8 years), Empire, Huddersfield; 2 years, Empire, Liverpool; 3 years, Grand T., Manchester; late Manager, Pringle's Alhambra, Edinburgh; Gen. Manager, Palace Cinema, Rothesay. All offers to T. W. LORRANCE, M.D., Palace, Rothesay. We don't want the earth; only reasonable terms.

WANTED, Engagement by good Cornet (first or second); panto. or any other business. Address, CORNET, 52, Fortune Gate-rd., Harlesden, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Engagement, First or Second Cornet; any business. Address, C. SHARP, 65, Earl-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet; experienced all lines; excellent refs.; would deputise; London preferred. Apply, CORNETIST, 26, Wortley-road, East Ham.

WANTED, by Clarinet (good), combine Violin, Engagement, Theatre or otherwise. At liberty till end of January. CHIVERS, R.M.C., Camberley, Surrey.

WANTED, by Clarinet, Engagement; musical comedy, drama, variety; good refs. CLARINET, 26, Canford-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarinet; young; abstainer; terms moderate. R. GODFREY, 12, Winchelsea-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Clarinet player, of Hippodrome, Greenock, Engagement. Address, E. FISHER 3, Bank-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement Clarinettist; exp. all lines; open at once; any business; first-class refs. C., 7, St. Nicholas'-road, Droitwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Bass and Drummer, thoroughly experienced, Orchestral, Variety, Pictures; London only; first-class refs. E. R., 245, Acton-lane, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, by Bassoon and 'Cello, Employment in Factory Band. Seventeen years' solo experience and can be relied on for both reed and string band. Excellent refs. Just finished with the Army. Address, Mr. C. TAYLOR, 4, Sidney-street, Teddington, Middlesex.

WANTED, Wanted, Engagement for Summer Season. Good Bass Trombone, also Tenor Soloist. J. C. COLLINS, 76, Northwold-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement, at once, or later on, by an absolutely brilliant Oboe and English Horn Soloist; thoroughly experienced in Orchestral and Theatre Music Business. Also First-class Clarinet Player. Address, G. SIEGEL, 24, Mornington-crescent, London, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted, by FLAUTIST (Soloist), Engagements in London; any business. 57, Wakeman-road, Kensal Rise.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, reliable, excellent references (soloist), requires Engagement; any business; would accept cruise or liner orchestra. Box 5,773 "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flautist (young); Orchestral or Solo Playing. Apply, HAROLD SHEEN, 66, Netherwood-road, West Kensington Park, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Harpist-Pianist; young, good appearance; Hotel, Café; tour abroad; no pictures. ERARD G. HARP (highest refs.), 19, Trafford-av., Harehills-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, by Pianist-Organist, Re-engagement; permanent; thoroughly experienced; to play to Pictures, with and without orchestra; good sight reader, improviser, &c.; steady and reliable; highest references and testimonials. Address, 77, Campbell-road, Walmer, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianiste; experienced; Pictures and Varieties, or Café; standard overtures, selections, &c.; orchestra or self. PIANISTE, 93, Lausanne-rd., Harringay, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist and Organist. pictures; disengaged. Relief or perm. W. P., 29, Lavengro-road, West Norwood.

WANTED, by excellent Lady Pianiste, Re-engagement; any business; orchestra or self; thoroughly experienced; own large library; London suburbs only. Offers, Box 5,775, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Mme. NELLIE BAKER, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED Known, the M.A.R.K. Ladies' Orchestra, including Annie Knowles, the celebrated Tromboniste. Direction, MINNIE RICHARDSON (Leader), Academy Cinema, Brighton.

WANTED Known, Mesdames L. and M. Karl's Tyrolese Ladies' Orchestras; now booking engagements. All work, smart uniforms. Address, 99, Brick-lane, Shoreditch, London, N.E.

WANTED Known, ROSE SCHOENTHAL'S MASCOT LADIES' ORCHESTRA. Just concluding 6 months, Spa, Scarborough. Applications, 3, Beaumont-villas, Fairlawn-avenue, East Finchley, London.

WANTED Known, Dorothea A. Vincent's ROYAL CREMONA ORCHESTRAS can be engaged from any number. All first-class artistes and extensive library. All coms., 16, Warrington-cres., Maida Vale, W. 'Phone, 4771 Pad.

WANTED, Wanted Known, MISS ZETTE HANDEL, Orchestra and Trio. All coms. to permanent address, 37, Hargrave-mansions, Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED Known, MADAME WINTERNITZ supplies excellent Trios, Quartettes, &c., for Picture Palaces; only first-class musicians; very large library; highest testimonials. 5, St. John's-villa, Albert-street, N.W.

WANTED Known, MISS AGNES NEWTON'S LYRIC LADIES' ORCHESTRA (Quartette or Trio); Pictures, Café, &c.; highest refs. 64, Langham-road, Blackburn.

WANTED, Engagements by renowned Orchestra; any number, from pianist, supplied for picture theatre and social functions; large library and excellent music; highest references. Write, J. B., 11, Alderney-road, Mile End, E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Small Orchestra (two violins, 'cello, bass, and piano), first class, all soloists, splendid répertoire; preferably Hotel or First-class Restaurant; highest references. 50, Oakington-road, Maida Vale, W.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, Dec. 29 and Jan. 5, onwards, useful Circus Artistes and Acts of all description. Lowest terms, TRANSFIELD, Circus Pavilion, Carnarvon.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dec. 29, onwards, Good Tops and Bottoms. Also Artistes suitable for Circus Ring. Fullest particulars and lowest terms. Wire, wire. WILDMAN, Pavilion, Carnarvon.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Grand Circus, Nottingham. THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS. THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS. THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS. THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS. The Marvellous Acrobatic Bareback Equestriennes, with their handsome trained horses. Have made The Greatest Success Ever Known. The Greatest Success Ever Known. THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS are now the talk of Nottingham. are now the talk of Nottingham. Note.—THE THREE ROYAL OHMYS will appear New Year's week in a grand new act, never seen before in a circus ring. A Merry Christmas to all at home and abroad. Address, THE ROYAL OHMYS, Bostock's Grand Circus, Nottingham.

WANTED, NEDDY VOKES, English and Continental Musical and Talking Clown, &c. Vacant, Dec. 29, Jan. 5. Address, Central Palace, Redcar. Also for tenting.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED. WANTED. WANTED. STAR ATTRACTIONS IN ALL LINES. For MONDAY, Dec. 29, and on. NORTH AND SOUTH.

Wanted, Wanted, Wanted. STAR ATTRACTIONS IN ALL LINES. For MONDAY, Dec. 29, and on. NORTH AND SOUTH.

FRITZ'S AGENCY, LTD., Cranbourn Chambers, Leicester-square Station, London, W.C.

THE LEON VINT TOUR. Head Office, 142, Long Acre, London, W.C. 'Phone, 9549 City. Telegrams, "Vinticon, London." WANTED, WANTED, COMEDY ACTS, BIG COMEDY ACTS. Nothing Too Big. Nothing Too Big. Salary or Sharing Terms. Also numerous vacancies for Small Comedy Acts. LOW COMEDIANS and COMEDIENNES. LOW COMEDIANS and COMEDIENNES. LOW COMEDIANS and COMEDIENNES. Smart Comedy Novelties. Must be Really Funny. Artistes write in direct to JAMES J. WELCH, Booking Department, c/o LEON VINT, as above.

VARIETY THEATRE, EASTLEIGH.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artistes, all Lines, for immediate dates. Nothing too big. POLLOCK, Eastleigh.

WANTED, Wanted Known, ZARMO, CAPITAL £10,000. UNIQUE VAUDEVILLE BUREAU. UNIQUE VAUDEVILLE BUREAU. UNIQUE VAUDEVILLE BUREAU. UNIQUE VAUDEVILLE BUREAU. 169, Oxford-road, Manchester. 'Phone: 3027 City. Tel. add.: Zarmo, Manchester. Proprietor, JOE. H. ZARMO Manager, W. F. MUNROE. Travelling Reps., LESLIE LEWIS and J. H. STEPHENS. Sec., GEO. STEPHENS. Northern Branch of the Unique Vaudeville Bureau, 67½, Portland-crescent, Ashington, Northumberland. Manager, GEORGE MONTROSE. 'Phone: 27 Ashington.

PRESTON AND BOYCE'S AGENCY, 7, George-street, Pendleton, Manchester. 'Phone, 338 Pendleton. WANTED, Three Attractions to Follow Eliott-Savonas, Dayton Family, Carl Hertz, &c., Dec. 29, on. Also Clever People in All Lines. Can arrange nine consecutive weeks where we have sole bookings.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY. WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Comedy Acts, Novelty Specialities, Anything Novel and Good, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26. First-class Pantomimes, Jan. 19. Terms, printing, &c., &c., 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds. 'Phone, 4195. Wires, "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

KENNEDY'S MIDLAND CIRCUIT. WANTED, Big Sensational Star Tops for Gaiety, Birmingham, Empire, Smethwick, Olympia, West Bromwich. Nothing too big. Share or salary. Jan. 12 onward. Also Artistes all lines for Kennedy Circuit. Can give 10 weeks. Journeys 2d. Lowest. Artistes working opposition halls barred the Kennedy Circuit.

B. KENNEDY, Empire, Smethwick.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Tops, share or salary, for immediate dates. Nothing too big, but must have drawing powers. Good terms to the right acts. Must send full list of bookings and absolute lowest terms in first letter, otherwise useless. FRANK BOYCE, 23, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

PALACE, DURHAM (On the main line N.E.R.). WANTED, Specialities, Tops, Bottoms, and Variety Artistes in All Lines, for two or three places. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, Star Acts of all descriptions for AFRICAN THEATRES TRUST (controlling 27 Variety Theatres in S. Africa), including ORPHEUM-VANDETTE, EMPIRE, and GRAND Circuits; also for AUSTRALIAN TOUR. Return fares paid, Boat and Rail, also Baggage. Grand trip in the finest climate in the world. Reasonable salaries paid (no act too big), but we are sound business people, not fools or philanthropists. State lowest salary required first letter to the Sole Agent, RUFE NAYLOR, 41, Charing Cross-road, London. Telegrams: "Runaylor, London."

WANTED, now and onward, Variety Artistes in all Lines. NO FANCY PRICES. Queen's Cinema, Bellfield-street, Dundee. All communications to ARTHUR HENDERSON, 28, Springfield, Dundee.

Wire, Wire, Wire, Wire, HERMAN and BENDON, Variety Agents. Tops, Bottoms, and Acts of every description. WANTED Known, vacant Monday next, and on. Wire, wire. Send full list of bookings to BENDON, 48, Marraygate, Dundee (of The Vanderbilts).

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

PONTYPOOL FETES, LTD. Whit Monday and Whit Tuesday, 1914. WANTED, Wanted Known, the Committee are prepared to receive Applications from Agents, Artistes, or anyone desirous of Engagements for the above Fête, both for Aerial and Stage Shows (Open Air). In all cases Complete Specifications as to Erections, Lithos, Showing Acts, and, as far as possible, Cost of Fixing Same must be sent. None but Artistes of the First Rank need apply. This Fête is visited annually by from 40,000 to 50,000 People. Particulars to SECRETARY, FETES, LTD., Pontypool.

Hic et Ubique. A Merry Christmas to all. WANTED, Top Liners and Acts of Every Description (Large and Small), but they must be good. S. W. C. sincerely thanks all those who replied to his last advertisements in "Stage" and "Era," but they being so numerous he finds it impossible to answer all individually, but every letter and date sheet sent in has been duly entered and will receive strict attention. All communications (which will be forwarded) address S. W. CUTHBERT, The Travelling Agent, 49, Kenbury-street, Coldharbour-lane, London, S.W.

HIPPODROME, LONDONDERRY. WANTED, First-class Variety Artistes in all Lines. Acts working Ireland will find this a convenient date. Lowest terms, particulars, to ADAMS' AGENCY, Broadmead House Panton-street, S.W.

Telegrams: "Jovial, Glasgow." Telephone: Douglas, 3179 Glasgow. SYD HERMAN & CO., Variety Agents, 95, Bath-street, Glasgow. WANTED, Star Attractions. Acts Every Description. Must be the goods. Immediate and future dates. Lowest terms. Date sheets. Lithos, and fullest particulars. ACTS VACANT DEC. 29 WIRE.

PALACE SUNDERLAND. WANTED, Big Comedy Acts, and Pantomimical Troupes, Sensational Specialities, First-class Novelties, Big Singing and Dancing Acts, really good Juvenile Troupes, and Anything with Strong Magnetic Drawing Powers, for the following dates: Jan. 19 and 26, Feb. 2, 16, March 2, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Acts. Only the Best is Good Enough. All Lines forward your List, your Bills, your Terms, your Earliest Open Time. MACQUEEN'S AGENCY, 48, Spoutmouth, Glasgow. 'Phone, 375 Bell. I can book you. One good turn deserves another. A Merry Christmas to All.

GEO. SAPHRINI'S AGENCY, 53, Sauchichall-street, Glasgow. 'Phone: 1173 Douglas. Wires: "Saphrini, Glasgow."

WANTED, Artistes All Lines. Wanted, Artistes All Lines. Wanted, Artistes All Lines. Immediately. Immediately. Immediately. Acts, Big and Small. Wire for Monday next. Wire for Monday next. Wire for Monday next. I can Place 30 Acts for Monday. I can Place 30 Acts for Monday. I can Place 30 Acts for Monday.

THE PALLADIUM, BELFAST. Managing-Director, John Lawson. Booking Manager, Chas. Stafford. Wonderful success. WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety, Comedians, Star Turns, Strong Drama, Musical Comedy, Pantomime, &c., Jan. 12, Feb. 16, 23, and on. Also for the Camberwell Empire. Wires, "Theatrebau," London. Letters, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, for Competition at Sadler's Wells, Foresters', Bow, and Battersea, Friday, Jan. 2, Variety Artistes; £1 prize. Apply, MANAGER, Sadler's Wells Theatre.

WANTED, at once, dark, good-looking Young Lady (21), for well-known Oriental Illusion show; about 5ft. 5in.; slight knowledge of Oriental dancing; petite, quick, but graceful; touring Continent; also fullest pars., lowest salary, recent photo., stamped e., &c., &c. LINGA-SINGH, Hippo., Lowestoft; next, Hippo., Margate.

WANTED, at once, a first-class Assistant for well-known Oriental Illusion Show; about 5ft. 5in.; slim; only one who is handy in some way and worker need apply to LINGA-SINGH, Hippodrome, Lowestoft; next, Hippo., Margate.

DALTON FOR DATES (WILL DALTON)

14th YEAR. ARTISTES WANTED. SEND FULL LIST OF DATES and LOWEST TERMS with Permanent Address. Residence— 57, Parsonage Road, Withington, MANCHESTER. Interviews—Appointment only

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, for Dec. 29, Dec. 29, Dec. 29, Jan. 5, Jan. 5 Jan. 5, onwards, onwards, onwards, Acts New to Treorchy, Abertridwr. Brynmaur, Maesteg, Glyneath, Neath. Also Big Featuring Acts New to Aberavon. Can give suitable Acts Seven Comfortable Weeks at the right salary. Full particulars, lowest terms, WILL LUND'S AGENCY, 197, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, HOOP ROLLER and JUGGLER, Must be quick, clever, and able to go "SOME." Tired Boobs, Make-believers, and Liquor Lifters won't Fit. State age, height, and full particulars, with photo, first letter. Address EVERHART. Per. add., C/o "Performer," 18, Charing Cross-road.

JOHN E. WEST'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, 144, Wellington-street, Glasgow. 'Phone 744 Douglas.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, ARTISTES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. ARTISTES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. ARTISTES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. ARTISTES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. First-class Comedy Acts. Immediate and Future Dates. Send full particulars. List of Bookings, and Lowest terms. Clients keep me posted.

PALACE, WINCHESTER. WANTED, Big Specialities, Good Comedy Doubles, and Sister Turns, for small hall. Those working South and wanting a good fill-in for immediate and future dates, send absolute lowest terms. SIMPKINS, Palace, Winchester.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY. 575, Argyle-street, Glasgow. Wires, "Cockney, Glasgow." 'Phone, 1075 Charing Cross. WANTED, for Immediate Dates, Big Tops with Drawing Powers, and Artistes of every description, for all parts of the country. Send full particulars, list of bookings, lowest terms, lithos. and perm. address. Representatives all over the country.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted, Wanted, COMEDY TUMBLER. Used to Bearing Shoulder Work. Open at once. Full particulars in first letter, with terms, T. JONES, 16, Alexandra-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, A smart, Knockabout Gymnast for three bars. Full particulars first letter, Box 5,676, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Monday next, Dec. 29, Jan. 12, 19, 1914, by MISS JENNIE BLAIN, Famous Scotch Contralto. The Lady with a Voice. With own slides. Also ALF CAWTHORN, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer. The funny man away from all others. Funny double act if required. Tremendous success this week, Theatre, Hinckley. Wire.

WANTED, Wanted Jan. 12, MARIE KAY, In Stories, Song Scena, and Dancing. Also VICTOR LE CLAIR, Magical Entertainer. This, Kino Hall, Clay Cross; next Pal., Chatham.

WANTED, by ROSE CASTON, Monday next; also Jan. 5 and 12. The ideal Boy Comedienne and Dancer. Unexpectedly vacant. Wire, 94, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 5 and 12, MYSTERIOUS MAY, Lady in Black. First-class Speciality Act. Wire, per. add., 33, Croft's-bldgs., Sheffield. York and Swadlincote to follow.

WANTED, Monday next, Dec. 29, Jan. 5. BELLA DONNA, the most Versatile Comedienne in Vaudeville. Assisted by MIKE KANE, a live Comedian, in a novel Comedy Creation. Address, KANE, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

WANTED, Jan. 12, on, by NELLIE BANKS, Dancing Comedienne; smart, young; pretty dresses. This, Tivoli, Tipton (ret.); next, Emp., Smethwick (ret.).

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, VANCIE DAINTREE, An Entertaining Comedienne and Dancer. My passport to success—Originality. Wire, Palace, Trowbridge. Next, Palace, Haslemere.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 5, by JEAN BRODIE, Scotch Comedienne and Artistic Dancer. Wire, Empire, Heanor, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Wanted, by MLLE. SYLVESTO, Society Contortionist, Jan. 5, 12 19. Also FUNNY RUMBO, Comedy Act; a yell. This, T.R., Newport, I.O.W. Next, Empire, Cowes.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 5, Miss ANNIE TORR, a Lady with a splendid Contralto Voice and Champion Lady Dancer of the World. Also MARTIN MELIA, Irish Comedian and the World's Artistic Dancing Masterpiece. Single and Double turns. Wire, TORR, Empire Theatre, Guernsey, C.I.

MISS MI NAROM, Character, Comedy, Comedienne and Dancer. WANTED, Dec. 29, Jan. 12, 19, MI NAROM. Theatre, Halesowen.

WANTED, Wanted, by MAISIE COYNE, Comedienne and Coon Delineator, Jan. 19, 26. This week, King'sT., Chopwell, Co. Durham. Next, Gem Theatre, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday (to precede Glasgow), NELLIE NEIL, Charming Comedienne, Baton Swinger, & Dancer. Wire, Electric Theatre, Coxhoe, Durham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

HELENA MILLAIS and the greatest of all American Cowboy Sketches. "SILVER CREEK." "SILVER CREEK." (A Story of Arizona.) Presented by HELENA MILLAIS, the Popular Young Actress, from the Lyceum, Court, and Little Theatres. Full company of 15 English and American Actors, including WM. FRASER-BRUNNER. Three Full Sets. One Horse. EIGHT REAL AMERICAN COWBOYS. Cowboy Parade. Beautiful Pictorials. Specially drawn by Staffords and Moody Bros. Dec. 22, Empire, Camberwell. Dec. 29, Queen's, South Shields. Jan. 5, Vacant. Jan. 12, Palace, Southampton (return). Jan. 19, Olympia, Shoreditch (return). Jan. 26, Vacant. Also "THE CREOLE." By Leon M. Lion (author of "The Touch of the Child," &c.). Seven People. One Scene. Miss Millais in title-rôle. Pictorials by Messrs. Staffords. "SILVER CREEK." 775th performance. "THE CREOLE." 100 performances.

WANTED, Jan. 5 (Midlands), Jan. 26, March 2, 9, 16, 23, April 6, 20, either Sketch. Apply, Principal Agents; or, HELENA MILLAIS, 5, Riverview-gardens, Barnes, S.W. 'Phone 1648 Putney.

The Great Military Comedy Sketch. "CHANGING GUARD." "CHANGING GUARD." "CHANGING GUARD." This week, Bottom of Hill, Palace, Derby. WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 29, 29. The Successful Vocal Comedy Sketch, "THE NEW STAR." "THE NEW STAR." "THE NEW STAR." This week, Empire, Motherwell. Re dates, A. D. McFARLANE, 136, Renfield-street, Glasgow. or EDWIN FIRTH, Gt. Bentley, Essex (or en route).

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 5 and 19, by CORA GILL & CO., in the Funniest of all Yorkshire Sketches, "AN ANGEL UNAWARES." A Scream and a Touch of Pathos. Sensible, Clever, and Played by Experienced People. This, Royal, Worksop. Next, Grand, Wath-on-Dearne. Wire.

WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 5, by BILLY ROSS & CO., Cleverest and Funniest Boxing Act going. Starring Empire, Cowes, I.O.W. Wire for draw.

WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 29, for "THE SLEEPWALKER" or "LITTLE WILLIE." WALTER ELLIS AND COMPANY. Wire, Hippo., Coventry.

WANTED Known, Vacant Jan. 5, follow Empire, Swansea. JOHN F. TRAYNOR AND CO., in the successful Western Romances, "The White Mother" and "The Devil's Elbow." Vacant through obliging, Jan. 5, Feb. 9, 16. Cast of four; own scene. Strong, picturesque, and well played. Wire, Coliseum, Kettering, or WILL COLLINS AND CO.

$1,000,000,000,000's worth of fun. "BOOSTER'S BILLIONS" is a scream "BOOSTER'S BILLIONS" is a scream "BOOSTER'S BILLIONS" is a scream and an Entertainment in itself. Vide "Yarmouth Mercury," "Glasgow News";—An unqualified success. WANTED, Jan. 5, 12, 19, and on, with exceptions, for "America's Big Laugh." An absolute Novel and Original Comedy Top. The Act and the Comedian with the reputation. BERT DANSON as Booster, assisted by Herbert Shaw. Coms., B. D. This, Hippo., Nottingham. Next, King's, Ramsgate.

To Managers and Agents. HARRY RYDON, presenting Comedy Sketch, entitled "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." "CANVASSING DAY." 15 minutes' scream. Own Scenery Carried. This week, Topping the Bill, Jersey. Last week, Bottom, Weymouth. WANTED, dates, from Jan. 12, onwards, with exceptions. Managers wanting the real thing Wire, Opera House, Jersey. Next week, Guernsey.

POTTED PLAYS. WANTED, Dec. 29, Jan. 5, 19 (Scotland). Big répertoire. 4 clever artistes. Wire, HERBERT BARRS, Victoria Hall, Kilsyth, N.B.

WANTED, Jan. 12 (Midlands), Feb. 9, and on, for Lilian Beaumont's Comedy Sketches, "Sally Mine" and "Woman's Rights." Thanks Day and Richards, for contracts. Variety Theatre, Basingstoke. Next, A.H., Poole.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, DOROTHY OWEN, The Girl Soprano, with own comedy numbers. Liberty, Monday next. Success this week, Gaiety Theatre, Cambridge. Wire, per. add., 36, Charlotte-street, London, W.

WANTED, Monday, also Jan. 5, by THE SPADONI SISTERS, Duettists and Speciality Dancers. Wires, Palace, Hinckley (return).

WANTED Known, to Managers and Agents, We are Vacant Monday, Dec. 29, Jan. 5. Who Wants Us. SISTERS ROY, the Talented Young Duettists and Dancers. Wire or write, Empire, Eastwood, Notts. A happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to all.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 5. New Star Attraction. SILVO and SYLVIA. SILVO and SYLVIA. Silvo's latest great novelty Instrument a terrific success everywhere. Fully protected by Royal Letters Patent. This week, New Palace, Redcar; or, Ash House, Lord-street.

WANTED, Jan. 5, 12, by DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, the original and only three famous Singing Boxmakers in the world; without a copy. Dainty boxmaking in full view of the audience. Brilliant vocalism and rag-time comedy. Big London and provincial reputation. Add., Hippo., Cleator Moor, Cumberland.

WANTED, Managers to Note that THE FOUR PENSEROSA BELLES are engaged from Dec. 26 by E. GRAHAM-FALCON.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

Still on Top.
LITTLE HACKENSCHMIDT.
LITTLE HACKENSCHMIDT.
LITTLE HACKENSCHMIDT.
The Batting Bantam.
£500 Open Challenge.

WANTED Known, last week at County Theatre, Bangor. Crowds coming from miles around, and one of the worst weeks in the year turned into one of the best. Proprietor Mr. James Hare, who is a showman, surprised and delighted with the act and business. Houses
PACKED TO THE DOORS.
PACKED TO THE DOORS.
Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hare for nice week. At liberty Jan. 26, Feb. 16. Shares or salary. Notice.—There are no wrestlers in Bangor, and they are not necessary for my act. Next week, specially engaged to start the New Year for Wildman's Winter Carnival and Circus Pavilion, Carnarvon, N. Wales.
Coms., perm. add., 34, Margaret-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted Known, the 3 SISTERS LE RAY 3 (Rosie, Iris, Lily).
In speciality Song and Dance. At liberty, Jan. 5, onward. A merry Christmas to all. Smart Girl Wanted; over 14; must have good voice, dance well; lowest; live in; immediately.
P.a., 15, Linden-road, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED Known, NEDDY VOKES, Comedy, Musical, and Talking Comedian; new to Wales and North. Vacant Dec. 29, Jan. 5. Address, Central Palace, Redcar.

JOEY STERLING, Comedian.
WANTED, Dec. 29 and Jan. 5. Last, Hippodrome, Lowestoft (third return). This week, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth (third return).

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, by CHARLES CHARD, Star Comedian.
Wire, Pavilion Theatre, Wellington, Salop.

WANTED Known, THE NAVAL JESTER. Clean, refined, smart, Musical Act. Vacant, Jan. 5, on. Address, C. WATERFIELD, Heathfield Hotel, Swansea.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 5, by JAMES VERNER, Comedian and Mimic. Can do two acts. Wire, 3, Algar-buildings, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, NIBBY CAMP, Eccentric Comedian, Jan. 5 and 12, between London and Dundee. Offers, 21, Thorold-street, Bethnal Green, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, JACK RAE, JACK RAE.
Wire to
Royal Palace, Stanningley, Leeds.

WANTED, Dec. 29, Jan. 5, by CAPITA, Master Mannikin; KATIE MORE, Comedienne and Baton Expert. C/o Keegan, 15, Gt. Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by BARBENDO, the Contortionist on the Silver Hat and Rings.
Wire, Hip., Stratford-on-Avon.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, by MARCUS BOYLE, Comedian.
MISS ADA WHITTON, Male Impersonator.
Wire, one or both, Empire, Rotherham.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted, by MARK MERRY,
The Original Comedian, Monday next, also Jan. 12. Wire or write, Vint's, or 9, Gregory-street, Ilkeston, Derbys.

WANTED, Monday next, and following, by ARCHIE MILLS,
Melodious Versatile Comedian. Recent reports: "A Real Comedian," "Warm Favourite." Wire, 168, Gordon-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Wanted, by DAVE ELLIOT,
Blind Vocalist and Musician. Jan. 12 and 19; follow Evesham. This, 11, Morrison-terrace, Mainsforth, Ferryhill, Durham. Next, Albert Hall, Dunston.

WANTED, Monday next, by JACK CREW,
Eccentric Singing Comedian and Dancer.
Third return, Empire, Leicester. Wire.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 5, 12, by SABINO,
Merry Musical Monarch. Wire, Picture Hall, Methley, nr. Leeds. Monday, Crown P. Palace, Kimberley, Notts.

G. W. BLYTHE, King's Medallist and Miner Hero, also MISS MILLER BLYTHE, singing Pit Lassie. Great Musical Mining Scena. Great draw everywhere. Special attractions Fridays.

WANTED Known, Vacant Dec. 29, Jan. 12 and 19. Write or wire offers, 53, Standish-street, Burnley. One of the rescue party, Welsh mine explosion.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Known, MIDGET,
Just returned from American tour. The "Teddy Bear" sensation of Selbini's Troupe. MIDGET, 99, Hamilton-street, Collyhurst, Manchester.

LITTLE ZOLA,
LITTLE ZOLA,
LITTLE ZOLA,
The unusual Comedian,
Returns from India, Jan. 3.

WANTED, Wanted Known,
Vacant from Jan. 5 until March 2.
Could take up panto. part.
All com., MR. FRED HIGHAM,
5, Durand-gardens, Clapham.

WANTED, Monday, THEO MAURITUS, the famous Handcuff King and Jail-breaker. Wire, Lyceum, Govan, Glasgow. House address, 48, Abbotsford-place, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 5, by BU-VAL,
The Happy Dutchman (Concertina).
Theatre Royal, Consett.

WANTED, Next week and Jan. 5, by WILL CORNISH,
The Musical Bell Expert (of Coliseum, Palace, Tivoli, &c.). Wire, Electric T., Devonport.

WANTED, Wanted Known, HARRY HERD,
Comedian. SOPHIE KNIGHT, Sweet-Voiced Vocalist. Two Refined and up-to-date Single Acts. Plenty of songs. Usual success, Palace. Vacant, Monday next, Dec. 29, and later. One or both acts. Wire, house address, 13, Summerland-street, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted by BERT BRAY, Light Comedian,
Jan. 12, 19. This, King's T., Chopwell, Co. Durham. Next, Gem Theatre, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Jan. 26, Feb. 2, ANTONIO SAVARO, the wonderful Bird Imitator, and Silfleur. Offers. Picturedrome, Irvine; next, Picturedrome, Govan, Glasgow. North or S. Wales.

WANTED Wanted Known, HARRY & ELLA,
(Harcourt) (Rose)
Comedy and Harmony Duo. Vacant, Jan. 12, 19. This, Bijou, Bridgwater. Next, Lyceum, Taunton. Compliments of the season to all.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 5 (through transferring). South preferred.
THE TWO MONICAS.
Comedy Musical Act. Wire, Empire, Torquay.

LANCASHIRE MANAGERS.
LANCASHIRE MANAGERS.
WANTED Known, who wants a big draw? ROYAL OSBORNES.
(Lady and Gent.) Sensational Posing Athletes. This, Picturedrome, Earby. Next, Hippo., Goldthorpe. Dec. 29, King's, Colne. Wanted, Jan. 5, 12, 19. Wire.

HARRY CLYO & ROSE ROCHELLE,
Gloom Shifters.
WANTED, Jan. 12. This week, Hippo., Connah's Quay.

WANTED, Dec. 29, on, by THE HORSLEYS (Will and Lizzie), the World's Greatest Expert Dancers; 12 mins. show. This, Hippodrome, Workington (return date, increase).

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 5, 12, 19. Wanted, Jan. 5, 12, 19. Also Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23. Also Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23. Specially engaged Dec. 29, New Pavilion, Princes Parade, Bridlington. Booked by Mr. Chas. Beanland.

"The Chameleon, the Artist, and IT."

Presented by
THE GREAT ROHDE and ROCHE.
THE GREAT ROHDE and ROCHE.

A truly clever and Original Comedy Pot-Pourri Act. Always a sure draw and a laughing and applauding hit everywhere. Can follow any act, no matter what.

Press Notices:—
"Stroud News," Dec. 5:—The turn of the bill is provided by Rohde and Roche in "A Strange Meeting." Their performance is at once novel and really wonderful. The pair are highly entertaining. Rohde, as the Chameleon, his make-up is excellent. He afterwards appears as "IT," and the way he twists his body and legs about simply astounds everyone, which causes much laughter and applause. "The Echo," Stroud, Dec. 2:—Rohde and Roche, whose turn is as novel as it is effective, fairly brought down the house, and the contortions of "IT" were remarkable and astonishing. The sketch is brimful of humour.
The one verdict of Proprietors, Managers and Public is, and very nice too. The only act of its kind without a rival. It's the Act. Again topping bill, Victoria Palace Littleborough, near Rochdale. Dec. 29, Pavilion Bridlington. Again thanking the many proprietors, managers, and agents for contracts and offers last week. Watch the above dates. Wire or write. Do it right now. Note.—This is not an ordinary duo act, but a real live spectacular novelty. Own scene and effects. D.-C. lithos. Compliments of the season to all. Doing great, thank you.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, by HOWE and ARDIE,
Great Comedy Act.
Wire, 33, Dunraven-rd., Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, MONDAY NEXT,
WANTED, MONDAY NEXT,
WANTED, MONDAY NEXT,
by
(Will) (Elsie)
REEVE and MORETON,
REEVE and MORETON,
REEVE and MORETON.
The Popular Vocalists and Speciality Step Dancers.
THE ACT THAT ALWAYS PLEASES.
Wire, REEVE, Theatre, Stourbridge-road, Halesowen, near Birmingham. Daytime, 115, Rocky-lane, Nechells, Birmingham.

WANTED, Jan. 5, 12, 19, by the famous
HAL AND LAL.
Many thanks for seven offers Xmas week, but we must have our price for our new act. We are worth it, and you know it.
Coms., Vent. Villa, 385, South-road, Walkley, Sheffield.
Dec. 29, Stone's Pal., Dowlais.
Merry Christmas to all.

N. C. BOSTOCK and NELLIE ELLIENE.
Terrific success at the Pavilion, Airdrie. The best that ever appeared here, so says Manager Hogg and Mr. Dunsmore. Thanks James Macqueen for offers.

WANTED Known, Vacant Jan. 5. 11, Taylor-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Known, WELDA and WYNNE (Bert and Dorothy), Comedy Juggling and Dancing Team. Vacant Jan. 5 and 12. This, Pavilion, Leicester; next, O. House, Buxton.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 5, by THE GENTRYS,
in a Merry Mixture of Mirth, Melody, Dance, Burlesque. Wire, Town Hall, Pudsey.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 5, by DENIS & DALE,
the Smart Entertainers, in song, patter, and dancing. Wire, Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Wanted Known, VAN ROOKE and WYNBURG,
In Novelty Pot-pourri "Blacksmith Act."
Original, Comedy, and Sensational.
The only Act of its kind in Europe. Own scenery. Full stage setting. D.C. Lithos. Genuine Top. Success everywhere. Vac., Dec. 29, through mistake. Also require Jan. 19, Feb. 2, 9.
Wire quick, Alexandra Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 5, 12, 19, by WINKIPOP and EDIE.
In Music, Comedy, and Dancing. This is not a quiet act, but a lively 15 minutes' from start to finish. The limit in baton swinging, patter, banjo playing, and long boot dancing extraordinary. This, Alhambra, Barnoldswick; next, King's T., Colne.

WANTED Known, TWO LEVANNIS, Marie and Chas.; Comedy Two Bars and Juggling Act. This, P.P., Irvine; next, Pavilion, Wick. Lib., Jan. 12, to follow Peterhead.

WANTED Known, Merry Christmas to all friends from HOWE and KESSLER, and SISTERS RALSEK. Vac., Jan. 5, on. Casino Palace, Glasgow; next, Templars' Hall, Lanark, N.B.

THE DUGARDES
THE DUGARDES
THE DUGARDES
in
entirely new, novel, and refined Musical Act,
introducing
a fine Pianist,
Beautiful Singing,
by wonderful Child Prima Donna.
Charming Dancing
by miniature Pavlova.
Pretty effect.
This week, Royal, Rushden.

WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 29. Permanent address, 19, Albion-street, New Brighton.

WANTED, Dec. 29, onwards, unexpectedly vacant, THE GELDERS,
Introducing the most Versatile Act in Vaudeville, Excellent Singing and Dancing, Patter, Comic Card Manipulation, and Posing above the average. Wire, Wire, Wire, Queen's Cinema, Dundee.

TWO DE TRAFFORDS, Versatile Artistes, introducing Harmony, Comedy, and Whistling.
Can Top, Bottom, or Middle any Bill.
WANTED Known, wire sharp for Dec. 29, also Feb. 2, 1914. A Merry Christmas to all. 9, King William-street, Tunstall, Staffs.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 5, RUFUS & EDA.
Original Comedy Act, with Novel Props.
"The Tramp in the Kitchen."
Singing, Dancing, Patter, Contortions, &c.
Good Single (Comedian) if once nightly.
Not the ordinary Song and Patter Duo, but an Up-to-date Versatile Comedy Act, Performed by Experienced Artistes.
Wire, Palace, Goole.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 5, the world-renowned DANCING MARTINS, Lady and Gent Vocal Duo and the World's acknowledged Champion Double Clog Dancers. Two hundred prizes and the two champion silver belts. Great double and single turns, singing and dancing act. Wire, Empire Theatre, Guernsey, C.I.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 5, by THE STANFORDS (Mabel and Ted),
The Singing, Dancing and Character Impersonating Duo. Also WILL SOHN, Character Comedian. Great success last week, Variety Theatre, Eastleigh. Thanks Messrs Mathews and Clifford for offers. Wire or write for two distinct acts.
17, Olney-street, Walworth, London, S.E.

WANTED by SHAW and WINDAR (Gertie and Frank), Jan. 5 (to precede Empire, Dewsbury. Pot-pourri of story, gag, and song. Own setting carried. Refined and novel. This, 2, Walters-terr., Mumbles, Glam. Thanks for offers last week. The season's compliments to all.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

LEONI CLARKE'S
Royal Comedy Animal Act.

One long laugh from start to finish.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted Known, the above Wonderful Drawing Act,
Vacant Feb. 2, March 9.
Vacant Feb. 2, March 9.
Vacant Feb. 2, March 9.
Shares preferred.
Share or Certainty.
CATS, CATS, CATS, CATS.
MONKEYS. 10 CLOWNS. 10 MONKEYS.
Work at liberty.
BIG FLIGHT OF PIGEONS FROM
the Front of Theatre to Stage; with new and novel tricks. This Act consists of Cats, Monkeys, Rabbits, Hares, Pigeons, Canaries, Guinea Pigs.
Notice to Proprietors and Managers.
This is the Largest Show of its kind.
Costs 11d. per mile travelling.
Beware of inferior imitations.
See what you are engaging; it will pay you.

Per., Race Horse Hotel, Northampton.
Magnificent Display of Posters and Lithos.

WANTED, Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 23 (North preferred), by
DAISY GRAHAM and CO.
Famous Troupe of Performing Birds, &c.
Featuring the only Performing Raven extant.
Elaborate Stage Settings.
Six-Sheets.
Shares or certainty.

This, Central Pal., Redcar, Yorks (Own Co.).

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 19, Feb. 2,
Midlands preferred, by
SILENT TAIT & AMEE,
SILENT TAIT & AMEE,
SILENT TAIT & AMEE,
SILENT TAIT & AMEE,
in a Novel Comedy Act.
Everything carried. Own scenery.
The busiest fourteen-minute act on record.
Wire or write to
SILENT TAIT & AMEE,
Dec. 22, Picturedrome, Newark; Notts.
Dec. 29, Empire, Somercotes, Notts.
Compliments of the season to all.

WANTED, Dec. 29, Jan. 5 and 12, by The DUBLIN DESMONDS (Seagnan and Molly), in real Irish dress, song, story, and dance. Splendid soprano. Unique dances. Empire, Dovercourt.

WANTED, Dec. 29, Jan. 5, 12, by HESS and LISBON,
Comedy Skating Act. A Riot of Laughter. Open for Speciality for good Pantomime. Last year, Theatre Royal, Glasgow. Wire, Theatre Royal, Stockport. Wire.

MISS LOUISA PEACH, supported by MR. FRANK STONE, in Duologue,
"In a Corner."
Dec. 29, Gaiety Theatre, Cambridge.
WANTED, Jan. 12, and few other dates.
3, Great Ormond-street, W.C.

WANTED, Jan. 5, 12, and 19, by LYVETTE and LYNETTE,
LYVETTE and LYNETTE,
in Music, Song, Story, and Conjuring.
This, Hippo., Pontycymmer, S. Wales.
Next, Variety Theatre, Stockingford.

A Star, Unrivalled Act.
WANTED, Known, Vacant, Following Immediate Dates, on account of not accepting tempting offers pantomime.
This week, Specially Engaged to Bottom Bill,
Hippodrome, Ipswich,
By Mr. E. H. Bostock.
THE DAME AND DAINTY DAMSEL.
THE DUNVILLES.
Vacant Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26.
Comedy, Musical, Vocal, Conversational Star Speciality.
A Most Versatile Production.
Beautifully Staged, Exquisitely Dressed.
An Act that Suits All Audiences.
Secure this act, above or later dates.
This week, Hippo., Ipswich.
Next, Dec. 29, Vint's Palace, Aberavon.

WALDO and WADE,
WALDO and WADE,
"THE PRANKS OF A POSTMAN."
"THE PRANKS OF A POSTMAN."

Just one of the Funniest and most Original Comedians and a Clever Little Lady Character Comedienne. Two of the best.

Last week, starring, Hip., Tonypandy.
This week, same, Gaiety, Cambridge.
Next, Empire, Middleton.

WANTED, Wanted Known, Dis., Jan. 5 and 12.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 19, 26, by STUART and EVANS, the Renowned Comedians. Good as any—better than many!
10, Overton-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED Known, the TWO DANIELS, in their successful Plantation Pastimes, vacant Monday.
Wire, Electric Theatre, South-st., Dorking.

WANTED, Jan. 12, 19, 26, on. BROS. CLIFFORDE, Popular Pattering Pair. Managers and Agents wanting a successful and reliable "turn," book us. Good single if required. Write this and next, "Electroscope," High Wycombe. Jan. 5, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, by HURLEY AND UNO,
by HURLEY AND UNO,
American Comedians, with New and Novel Ideas, in their Great Comedy and Dancing Act.
Last, Terrific Success, Cinema, Brynmawr.
This, Wadbrook's Cinema, Milford Haven. Wire, wire, wire, for Sure Draw. Wales preferred.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 5 and 12, THREE FLORADORAS,
Screaming Musical Comedy Scena. This, Lyceum, Whittington Moor, near Chesterfield; Monday, Exchange Hall, Harwick.

THE LEAS
(Clara, Dick, and Jack), in Song, Music, Art.
An undeniable success everywhere.
The Latest Songs and Melodies.
New, Brilliant Fit-up in Silver. Any size Stage.

WANTED, Monday next, Dec. 29, and Jan. 5. Telegrams, "Laburnum, John-street." Grand, Huntingdon.

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THE SOLLIES.
THE SOLLIES.
THE SOLLIES.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

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THE AMATEUR STAGE.

Croydon Stagers O.S. in "Iolanthe."

Mr. William Bake, the producer, and the musical-director, Mr. H. Leslie-man, may be congratulated upon the success of this production at the Public Hall, Croydon, on Dec. 1. The chorus work generally was admirable, and several of the individual impersonations of great merit. Miss Rose Short played Phyllis most delightfully, and with her must be ranked Miss Muriel Reade's Iolanthe. Both voice and acting were instinct with charm. Miss Gertrude Whitworth, as the Queen of the Fairies, hardly made the most of her vocal numbers, otherwise she was quite convincing. Of the men Mr. G. Howard Cundell scored a success with his Lord Chancellor, although it was difficult at times to follow his words; and Mr. C. H. Gibson used his fine voice to great advantage as Private Willis. Mr. Henry Alton was a trifle overweighted by the music of Strephon, but played very engagingly, and as the two peers Mountararat and Tolloller Messrs. Maurice Thevenard and George Ferguson were adequate.

London County Council D.C. in a Triple Bill.

By its selection of "The Monkey's Paw," "Op-o'-my-Thumb," and "The Twelve-pound Look" this society certainly gave an admirably contrasted bill of fare at the Cripplegate Theatre on Dec. 2. In Jacobs' hair-raiser Mr. Percy Merriman played Mr. White very cleverly, his work in the last scene being excellent, while Mrs. Kirby, as his wife, was exceedingly good. As the Sergeant-Major Mr. George Snaith contributed a real character-sketch. Mr. Walter Glover was a trifle gauche as Herbert. In "Op-o'-my-Thumb" Mr. Arthur O'Keen—who was also responsible for the production of the three plays—was admirable as Horace Greensmith, and Amanda was given quite the right pathetic note by Miss Amy Gwennett—a thoroughly satisfactory piece of work. In the smaller part of Clem Mrs. Varnall deserves special commendation. "The Twelve-Pound Look" was perhaps the least satisfactory of the three plays. It requires rather special treatment, and Mr. Spencer Leeming so overplayed Sir Harry Sims as to turn the comedy into a farce and very largely nullify the very capable efforts of Miss Ethel Teale as Kate to keep within the spirit of the play. However, he didn't quite spoil the effect of some quite clever acting.

"Old Strandians" D.C. in "The Return of the Prodigal."

This society is becoming quite enterprising—witness its selection of "The Silver Box" last season—and it is only proper that its representation of St. John Hankin's clever play at the Cripplegate Theatre on Dec. 3 should have met with such success. The audience were very obviously pleased, and the players generally gave sound and efficient renderings of their respective parts. Naturally, very much turns on the Prodigal and Mr. Harold Dwyer played him excellently. Certainly that effect of colossal impudence was not sufficiently suggested, but his Eustace must rank as one of the best things he has done. Mr. Alex Lewis was naturally priggish as Henry, and Miss Betty Adams most convincing as Mrs. Jackson. Miss Marie Goldie—indifferently made up—and Miss Dorothy Sharp were each well suited to Lady Faringford and Stella Faringford, and deserve well of their club, and Miss Maud Robertson—otherwise charming—underplayed somewhat. Others needing mention for good work are Mr. Gilbert Carmichael (Samuel Jackson), Mr. Stuart Ellacott (Sir John Faringford), and Mr. Fred P. Davis (Dr. Glasher). The play was admirably produced by Mr. Bailey Willmott.

Norwood Free Lances in "Tom Jones."

This tuneful opera was given with very great credit by members of this society, at the Stanley Hall, South Norwood, on Friday, December 5, and congratulations may well be extended to Mr. Sydney Herbert, the musical director, and Mr. George W. Wilton, the producer. I notice, by the way, that the musical director is given the greater prominence on the programme—quite an unusual reversal of things. However, both had done their work splendidly. Mr. W. H. Burchett played the name part most gallantly. He could have been even more dashing in his love-making, but it was a sound performance, and Miss Vera Smith sang the music allotted to Sophia charmingly, and when she overcame her nervousness played very well too. Mr. W. T. Cotter was almost alarmingly splenetic as Squire Western, and extremely funny in addition, and Mr. J. D. Davies brought down the house as Benjamin Partridge, singing and dancing very neatly. Miss Katie Hurlstone made a captivating Honour, and Miss Lily Goodwin as Miss Western and Miss Laura Ayliffe as Lady Bellaston were both right in the picture. The chorus work was especially good, despite the huge crowd that appeared to be on.

Sydenham and Forest Hill A.D.S. in "The Professor's Love Story."

One hardly imagines that this play stands reviving like Barrie's other work. It struck a very old-fashioned note at Hamilton Hall on December 6. In some cases, indeed, needlessly. It would surely have been possible to cut some of the asides, and the reference to a lady's dress requiring nineteen yards of material was ludicrously ancient. In the name part Mr. Arthur Phillips did very well indeed. He looked it to the life, and though his first act suffered from an excess of energy, he was easy and natural, made his points, got his laughs, and in the third act his tears. Miss Gertrude Dennis as Lucy played most charmingly, and sincerely, and betrayed a strong sense of comedy. The Scotch parts were especially good. Nothing could have been better than Mr. Llewellyn Wynne's Henders—he was right in the skin of the character—while Mrs. A. Constandurr's Effie was equally excellent, her accent being notably good. Mr. A. B. Pridie's Pete erred somewhat from clowning, but his audience enjoyed it. Mr. C. Lionel Faulks commenced shakily, and was somewhat streaky all through, but at his best he was very good indeed. Mr. A. Constandurrs made Sir George Gilding an amusing ass, and Mrs. Bernard Titford was properly irritating as the Dowager; while Lady Gilding was played much too quietly by Mrs. D. Curtis Hayward, to the point, indeed, of inaudibility. Miss Eva Needl did good work in the difficult part of Miss Goodwillie, and Mr. Herbert Foskett made an amusingly pompous Dr. Yellowlees.

"Eliza Comes to Stay," at Bath.

The annual performances by amateurs in aid of the Royal United Hospital, Bath, took place at the Theatre Royal, Bath, the latter three evenings of last week, when, under the personal superintendence of Mr. Lewis A. Long, the acting manager of the theatre, was produced with the most gratifying results. Success was won by Mrs. Charles Kelly as Eliza, who, making her first appearance on the "regular" boards, was at once at home, and her future work will be watched with the keenest interest. Another newcomer in the ranks of local amateurs was Miss Gladys Start, who gave a capital study of Lady Pennybroke. Miss Norah Brown was well in the picture, and beautifully gowned as the actress, Vera Laurence, but she must guard against a common fault of becoming too self-conscious. Miss Dickson did well as the nurse, Mrs. Allaway. It was a pleasure to see Mr. C. F. Whittuck back again in such a straight part as Sandy Verrall, and this polished actor scored in his latest impersonation. Mr. Stuart Carter had for him a light task in playing the uncle, Stoop Verrall, but he made the best of his few chances. Dr. Leslie Walsh was at his best as Montague Jordan. Mr. Egbert Lewis, junr., sustained with dignity and clear enunciation the character of Herbert (a valet).

West Norwood O.S. in "Ruddigore."

Considering that it is by no means the best of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas the entertainment provided by this society's production at the West Norwood Public Hall, on Dec. 5, was really exhilarating, and credit must be given very largely to Mr. Claude Selfe, the producer, for it must have been largely due to his efforts that the show went with such a swing from start to finish. Which, of course, is not to disparage Mr. Percy Bright's share in the honours as musical director. Indeed, he deserves a special pat on the back for keeping quite a large orchestra under sufficient control for one to hear the words of the songs, by no means a very common feature, by the way, of amateur productions. It is almost invidious to particularise as to the parts. To be quite frank, the principals were not the most enjoyable part of the show, but Mr. Tom Pritchard, as Robin Oakappie, was in a class by himself with the men, as was Miss Connie Palmer (Rose) with the ladies, although Miss Dorothy Banks very nearly scored a big success in the difficult part of Mrs. Margaret. The ghost scene was most effectively played, the chamber set and the ancestors' portraits used being most realistic.

"The Mikado" in Dublin.

The Rathmines Musical Society produced Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "The Mikado," to large and enthusiastic audiences last week at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin. The society spared no effort to have the work suitably presented. As Ko-Ko Mr. Wilson Kelly was delightfully humorous. He had an able partner in Mr. W. F. Knox, whose Pooh-Bah showed careful study. As the Mikado Mr. Irvine Lynch sang and acted with all the sang-froid of a professional artiste. Of the ladies, pride of place must be given to Miss Eileen Furlong, whose Katisha was the feature of the evening. Possessed of a fine stage presence and a charming contralto voice, this young lady gave a really excellent performance. Miss Lizzie Ward also deserved praise for her charming study of Yum-Yum. Miss Violet Been (Mrs. Edgar Hoyle) as Pitti-Sing proved herself to be an actress of considerable grace, a remark which also applies to Miss May Gorman and Florence Evans. Others worthy of note were Mr. J. C. Crane (Nanki Poo) and Mr. Charles Jackson (Pish-Tush). The chorus, which was under the control of Mr. C. P. Fitzgerald, was an excellent one. Mr. J. C. O'Brien, the stage manager and producer, had done his work well, and he was ably assisted by Messrs. J. Brooke-Kelly and Lionel Cranfield.

"Yeomen of the Guard" at Chiswick.

Last week the Chiswick Operatic and Dramatic Society gave four performances of the Yeoman, but we cannot certainly speak favourably on its production, the principal fault lying with the chorus. The principals were on the whole fairly good. Miss Helen Greig made an excellent Elsie, singing and dancing with great vivacity. Miss Sybil de G. Edye showed marked ability as Phoebe; Miss Joan Hankinson also calls for commendation for her singing as Dame Carruthers; and Miss Ethel Loveridge gave a dainty impersonation of Kate. Mr. Leonard B. Wright's interpretation of Wilfred Shadbolt was quite natural. We cannot congratulate Col. Fairfax's representative, Mr. Hugh Williams, on his performance, but he used an excellent voice to advantage; and Mr. Duncan McMonan was an amusing Jack Point. A really good Lieutenant of the Tower was found in Mr. J. Quigley. Sergeant Meryll and Leonard Meryll received adequate treatment from Mr. W. S. Porter and Mr. Herbert Gilbert. The opera was elaborately mounted and dressed.

Amateurs at Liverpool.

During two evenings of last week the seventh annual amateur dramatic performances in behalf of three deserving local charities were given at the Liverpool Royal Court Theatre. This event is always arranged by Mr. Arthur Lawrence, the popular manager of the theatre, and the efforts of the amateurs have resulted in nearly £1,000 being raised since the project was started. The performances last week were under the patronage of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the Earl and Countess of Derby, and the Earl and Countess of Sefton. "Diana of Dobson's" was the chief piece of the evening. Mrs. Geoffrey Earle proved a very acceptable Diana, and was well supported by Captain E. R. M. English (Victor Bretherton), Messrs. W. R. Nelson (Fellowes), A. B. Malandrinos (waiter), Miss Therese Jackson (Mrs. Cantelupe), and Mr. David Ainsworth (Sir Jabez). "Hop-o'-my-Thumb" preceded.

The Liverpool Green Room Amateur Dramatic Society gave a week's performance at the Repertory Theatre of "The Manœuvres of Jane," good business being done. The outstanding parts were admirably handled by Messrs. H. T. Bagnall (Lord Bapchild), Claude Liardet (Jervis Punshon), W. R. Broad (Mr. Nangle), Mrs. Bagnall (Constantina), Mrs. Eric Keizer (a capital Jane), Mr. B. A. Carr (George Langton), Mr. Reginald Lees (Sir Robert), and Dr. E. S. Hayes Gill (the innkeeper).

The Liverpool Lyric Operatic Society gave a rendering of "Miss Hook of Holland" last week at Kelly's Theatre. The production was altogether good, and the audiences large. Miss Jessie Adams, as Mina, was bright and vivacious, among her best-delivered songs being "A pink petty for Peter." Miss Carrie Ward earned much approval for her Miss Hook, her singing being particularly pleasing. Mr. S. A. Westerton was a funny Mr. Hook; Mr. Jack Hughes proved successful as the bandmaster, the audience richly enjoying his song "When the sun is aglow in the West"; and Mr. Jack Henderson was a droll Slinks.

The Aigburth (Liverpool) Amateur Dramatic Society gave last week a capital performance of "The Private Secretary," the principal rôles being sustained by Messrs. P. M. Patterson (Spalding), S. E. Rowlands (Harry Marsland), Tom Handley (Cattermole), Miss Lena Brown (Edith Marsland), Miss Emily M. Morris (Eva Webster), and Miss Constance Atkinson (Miss Ashford). Good supporters were Miss May Turford and Messrs. H. H. Houghton, J. Pearson, J. McClenahan, and J. Phillips.

Court Operatic Society.

Edward German's light opera "Tom Jones" held the stage at the Royal Court Theatre on the evenings of Dec. 18, 19 and 20. The always pleasing music will be fresh in the memory of most theatre-goers, and many, we imagine, who saw the original performance will have derived a pleasure, quite unmixed with comparative regrets, from its interpretation by these gifted amateurs. The high level which was reached with the opening bars was maintained throughout, and with the fall of the curtain there was a scene of considerable enthusiasm, and many beautiful floral tributes were offered. Of the principals, Miss Alice Lilley, as Sophia, sang exquisitely, and acted with dignity and charm. Her rendering of the waltz song in the third act was perhaps the culminating point of her excellence, and was deservedly encored. There should be many successes awaiting her. Mr. Lionel Cornish, as Tom Jones, sang pleasingly, and acted with sincerity. Miss Eannie Skinner, as the demure Honour, Sophia's maid, sang and danced and acted prettily and naturally. Mr. Fred H. Leith, as Benjamin Partridge, made the comic hit of the evening. He is a comedian of considerable merit. The remaining parts were well filled by Miss Dorothy Bennett, Mr. Chas. F. Cheshir, Mr. W. T. Cotter, Mr. Chas. James, and others. Mr. James has an excellent voice. A very pretty chorus was well in the picture, and the opera was handsomely mounted and admirably stage-managed by Mr. Edward Charles. The capital orchestra was artistically directed by Mr. Frank Mummery. We should add that the performance was in aid of the Royal Normal College for the Blind.

Amateurs at Edinburgh.

The Dickens Fellowship Dramatic Club gave their first performance on Thursday last in Lauriston Hall, before a large audience. The play chosen was an adaptation by Mr. Walter Dexter of "Barnaby Rudge," entitled "Dolly Varden." The title-rôle was acted with real charm and intelligence by Miss Madge Craigie, a young actress who showed gifts of comedy and emotional expression. Among other successful impersonations may be mentioned the manly, vigorous Joe Willet of Mr. W. S. Aikman, the amusing Miggs of Miss Grace Rudland, and the clever acting of Mr. Herbert D. Down as Tappertit, while a small part notably well acted was the Maypole Hugh of Mr. John Claude. The audience recalled the players at the close of each act.

Penzance Dramatic Society.

The Penzance Pavilion was crowded on the evening of the 12th inst., on the occasion of the Penzance Dramatic Society's performance of "Dandy Dick." The director, Mr. C. Hodges, must be congratulated on such a meritorious production, which added a considerable sum to the funds of the West Cornwall Hospital. Miss Muriel Kidner, a member of Mr. J. Welch's "When Knights Were Bold" Company, came to Penzance for the purpose of taking the part of Georgiana Tidman, and to her must be accorded the distinction of achieving one of the outstanding successes of the evening. As Shera Miss Beatrice Hodges was excellently placed; while as Salome Miss Avis Baskeen contrived to keep well in the picture. Miss Margaret Poole made a capital servant at the deanery. As the Dean of St. Marvells Mr. A. C. F. Dolben improved greatly as the comedy proceeded, and with the exception of his make-up being too old his rendering was thoroughly interesting. Mr. Barrie B. Bennetts is entitled to praise for a painstaking and well-thought-out performance. As the butler Mr. R. Glave Saunders did some clever work. Mr. Tom Beckerley as the groom had comparatively little to do, but completely justified his selection. Noah Topping was in the safe hands of Mr. J. C. Hodgson, who was a decided success. As Major Tarver and Mr. Darbey, Messrs. N. Caleb Porter and Dennis Snook had a tendency to overdo their parts, and with careful study should considerably improve. A suite of clever dances was contributed by Miss Katherine Hodges.

"The Second Guest" at Cheltenham.

Miss Violet Gibbons produced her latest comedy—a three-act effort—on Thursday last, the 18th inst., at the King's Hall, Cheltenham, and the talented young playwright is to be congratulated on a very capable piece of work. The dialogue teems with amusing epigrams, and throughout the play the humour never flags. The story is briskly told, and the interest is held closely up to a delightful finish. Mr. Nathaniel Plim, a very nervous and bashful old country gentleman, in a courageous moment decides to take in a paying guest, and as the result of his advertisement finds himself in a predicament, two guests arriving—Mr. Nicholas Treasury, an eminent man of letters and a misogynist to boot, and Ray Weatherbye, a dashing young widow, attended by her aunt, Penelope Staverton. The author will not brook the ladies' presence, and apparently the dislike is mutual, the ladies insisting on departing, as they were second on the scene. Ultimately they agree to lodge in separate wings. The young widow, however, has made a wager that she will get the woman-hater to propose within a month, and it is the feathering of this little scheme by every device, stage or otherwise, that provides the backbone of the play. Of course she succeeds, but the threads are very prettily tangled before the conquering life-force prevails. Two other love-stories are interwoven with the main theme, and hints of a "domestic" third. Plim discovers in the aunt the flame of his bashful boyhood, and eventually succeeds in declaring his passion. The squire's son and the rector's daughter's little love episode is also delightfully interwoven, and a capital little company assisted the authoress in successfully presenting the comedy. Miss Gibbons fairly revelled in the part of the wily widow—the woman-hater hadn't a chance, although Col. Bell, in the part, made an excellent foil. Miss Olive Church and Mr. Lisle Humphreys were the young lovers, and the elderly ones were capably represented by Miss Margaret Macbean and Mr. J. S. Gibbons. Miss Dorothy Turner did well as the servant.

"THE BRIBE."

Play, in Three Acts, by Seumas O'Kelly, Produced for the First Time at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, Dec. 18.

Dr. Jack Power O'Connor ..Mr. Philip Guiry
Dr. Luke Diamond ..... Mr. Fred O'Donovan
Mrs. Diamond ..... Miss Nora Desmond
John Kirwan ..... Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Mary Kirwan ..... Miss Kathleen Diago
Mr. Morrissey ..... Mr. Kerrigan
Mrs. Cooney ..... Miss Magee
A Pauper ..... Mr. Coniffe

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The play turns on the appointment of a dispensary doctor for the little town of Garrymore. One of the candidates is Dr. Power O'Connor, the son of an old wealthy practitioner, and the other is Dr. Luke Diamond, whose mother is an anxious, thrifty widow. The election is by the Board of the Garrymore Union, of which John Kirwan is the chairman, and the audience are at once introduced to the canvassing operations on behalf of the respective candidates. Young Dr. Luke has in his favour his university qualifications, his personal charm of manner, and his obvious suitability for the post. His rival has more or less the overmastering influence of his father, and the pecuniary inducements which the latter is in a position to hold forth to the members on whose votes the issue rests. Of these pre-eminently is the chairman, and the motive of the play turns mainly on the mental struggle of John Kirwan that arises between his conscientious convictions on the one hand and the irresistible temptation to yield to a bribe on account of financial difficulties.

On the pleadings of his wife, he breaks his promise to the widow and her son, and in the end his casting vote returns Dr. O'Connor. The tragic finish is that Kirwan's wife dies through the incompetence of the newly elected doctor, despite the exercise of the skill, too late, brought in of the rejected Dr. Luke. This all too inadequate summary of the play shows the great possibilities for good acting and smart dialogue, and certainly the play lacks neither. The character on whom falls the brunt of the acting is that of John Kirwan, and Mr. Sinclair certainly makes the most of the part. Miss Nora Desmond's performance of the love-disappointed widow, Mrs. Diamond, is a fine piece of character acting. As Mrs. Kirwan Miss Eileen O'Doherty acted with much skill, and Miss Magee in the small part of the nurse was very convincing. The Guardians meeting is delightfully natural, Mr. Kerrigan's speech in proposing Dr. O'Connor being a perfect masterpiece of parochial eloquence. It was almost equalled in oratorical vehemence by Mr. J. O. Rourke as the leader of Dr. Luke Diamond's supporters. At the end the author was called and loudly applauded.

Miss Ethel Emily Redway, a dancer, whose professional name is Miss Grimaldi, claimed damages on Wednesday last for libel, through describing her photograph as that of an artist's model, against the Amalgamated Press, Ltd. The matter complained of was admitted to be a libel, and the only question was one of damages. The defendants offered ten guineas and payment of costs, but the jury awarded plaintiff fifty guineas damages.

The fight still wages hotly around Berlin's most unwelcome amusement-tax, which has led to furious debates more than once in the official sessions of the City Council. The social democratic councillors are all against the tax—which they maintain is aimed exclusively against the amusements of the masses—and would fain see its immediate withdrawal. The majority of the city fathers insist, however, that the trial year must run its course.

The Buxton Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society gave, on the evenings of the 17th and 18th inst., two successful representations of R. C. Carton's "Liberty Hall," in aid of local charities, in the Opera House.

Five thousand and odd pounds were realised by its three days' sale at the Military Bazaar recently held at the Royal Horticultural Hall, at which the Hon. Mrs. Brett, Miss Zena Dare, Miss Kitty Mason, and others assisted. Lady Codlington, the president of the Bazaar Committee, has written to Mr. Frank Marshall a letter of appreciation of his work on behalf of the Regimental Agency.

A famous after-the-theatre resort is Appenrodt's, whose white and gold restaurants are familiar features of the West End. The distinctive mark of the establishment is the production of Continental delicacies, especially the German sausage, and for the purpose of producing that edible in its choicest form a model factory has been built in North London by Mr. Appenrodt. The factory is completely equipped with the most modern plant of machinery and a wonderful system of cold storage. On the ground floor are the cold room and the pickling tanks, and on the upper floors the kitchens and preserving-rooms, where Mr. Appenrodt produces his new speciality—soups, entrées, and other table delicacies in glass jars.

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1913.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies, or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PAVILION HOUSE. — Dale and Rossi, Bob Merry, pictures.

GLASGOW ZOO CARNIVAL.—Cliff Berzac's stage Circus, Ada, Miss Florence, Capt. Pinder's elephant, Addison's Terrier, Gino Sans Troupe, Spuds, Bros. Manoel, Lea May Trio, Ronna Sisters, Goss, The Littlefords, Boxing Kangaroo.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Tourbillon Troupe, Austin Lempie, Fred Arthur, Leigh Bros., Ada Trio, Chris MacGregor and Co., Great Wieland, pictures. Special matinée on Jan. 1, 2 and 3 at 2.30 p.m.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2). — Leonard Gautier, The Hussinis and It, Alice Gill, The Yukitos, Fred Shepherd, Teddy Olben, Pathé's Gazette, Macarte Sisters.

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2). — Edward Marris' pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

PAISLEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal 12). — Potter and Hartwell, James Houston and Co., Jelf, Hyde and Cody Trio, Eddy Lawler, Three Arleys, Five Sollies, pictures. Special matinée on Jan. 1 and 2 at 2.30.

HAMILTON AND [illegible] TOUR.

CROWN E CO-OPERATIVE HALL (rehearsal, 12). —Company as booked, and pictures.

NORTHWICH PAVILION (rehearsal, 12).—Bennett and Conway, Stanley Russell, White Bros. and Emily and company as booked, and pictures.

RUNCORN PUBLIC HALL (rehearsal, 12).—Arthur Hinton and Leila Zillwood's Dramatic Co. in "Slaves of Vice."

WIDNES CO-OPERATIVE HALL (rehearsal, 12).—Sara Roseberry, Bert Williams, Edith Wright, Fitzallan, and pictures.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM (rehearsal, 12).—Six White Boys, Kromer.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—Carr's Revue, "While You Wait," Knowles and Bowles, the Three Eltons, J. J. Mannix, the Dunstalls, Mdlle. Sara's Marblesques.

CANNOCK HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—Gus Lavaine's "Sinbad the Sailor."

DARLASTON QUEEN'S (rehearsal, 12).—Miss Eirene Douglas' Répertoire Co.

OLDBURY TIVOLI (rehearsal, 12).—Will Lloyd's Répertoire Co.

SMETHWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—Ernest Montefiore and Co., "The Little Colonel," Sisters Billington, the Water Nymphs, Hal Bryan, Johns and Dent, Gicardo, Spry and Monti.

TIPTON TIVOLI (rehearsal, 12).—The Welsh Murray Trio, Will S. Dyke, Dave Buchanan.

WEDNESBURY KING'S (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—The Great Adami, Rhyll and Joe Urton, the Racine Trio.

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 3).—The Harvey Boys, Arculus, Daisy Reed, Johnson and De Vere, Nellie Banks.

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES

BALHAM (rehearsal, 1.30).—George Leyton's revue, Sam Mayo, Canova's Porcelains, Frank Powell, D'Vorak Family, William Burt Quartette, pictures.

CAMBERWELL (rehearsal, 1).—Yuma, the Gothams, Harry Champion, Harriett Vernon and Co., Frank Lyster and Co., Bijou Trio, Frank Powell, Edie Coolville, Frank Hartley.

CLAPHAM (rehearsal, 1).—Signor Arvi, T. E. Finglass, Rose Cambry, Cullen and Emery, Sydney Blow and Co., Emil Solbrig, Rob, Ivy and Lynn, Arthur Young, pictures.

CROYDON (rehearsal, 2).—The Bogannys, Sam Mayo, Nelson Trio, Larry Lewis, the Harmers, Vine and Brewer, Mooney and Holbein, Jessie Berg, Gaston Chevalier, pictures.

HAMMERSMITH (rehearsal, 1).—Jack and Evelyn, Bi-Bo-Bi, Joe Elvin and Co., May Moore Duprez, Scener Troupe, Chas. Cohan, Geo. D'Albert, Elly Junora and Partner, Carangeots, Levanti, pictures.

HOLBORN (rehearsal, 11.30). — Bombardier Wells, Jack and Evelyn, Albert Whelan, Joe Elvin and Co., Dillon Shallard Trio, the High Daves Trio, Four Curtiss's, T. E. Dunville, Lloyd Morgan, Millie Payne, pictures.

ILFORD (rehearsal 12).—Revue, "Say When," the Belzars, Sisters Goodman, Dusty Rhodes, Newman and Royle, Rafala and Coecilia, pictures.

ISLINGTON (rehearsal 1).—Chas. Austin and Co., Melody Makers Elliott Savonas, Comedy Meisters, Tony Nelson and Tilley, Anna Dorothy, Mabel Thorne, Fred Elton, pictures.

KILBURN (rehearsal, 1).—Day's revue, "Hullo, Ragtime."

LEWISHAM (rehearsal, 12).—Palladium Minstrels, Sam Mayo, Gollett's Monkeys, Mignonette Kokin, Sydney Blow's Co., Mile. Golda, Daisy Taylor, Tim Carlisle, pictures.

PALADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Fred Earle, Cissie Lupino, Adele Moran, Albert Whelan, Little Tich, Revue "I Do Like Your Eyes."

POPLAR (rehearsal, 1).—The Midgets, Leonard Mortimer and Co., Adele Morelle, Four Netherlands, Nevern and Tussau, the Crispe, Carl and Eddie, pictures.

PUTNEY (rehearsal, 12.30).—Ernie Lotinga and Co., Harry Ford, Geo. D'Albert, Fred Elton, Dorima Trio, Stacey and Williams, Cissie Williams and Co., Ruby Norton, pictures.

ROTHERHITHE (rehearsal, 1). — Bransgrove and Slaughter's "Under Two Flags."

SHOREDITCH (rehearsal, 12.30).—Bombardier Wells, Henderson's "Persian Slave," Pat, Doris and Avice, Six Ceylons, Harry Ford, Molly Drew, La Freya, S. W. Wyndham, pictures.

WILLESDEN (rehearsal, 12.30).—Irma Lorraine, Menetekel, Cooper and Lait, Fred Earle, Ellersly Pine, Guy and Grahame, Chas. Coborn, Nellie Lunelle, Ginsy Woolf and Girl's pictures.

WOOLWICH (rehearsal, 12).—"What Ho, Ragtime," Austin Hurgon's revue, Will Hay, Gus Harris, Wentworth Croke and Co., Blake and Granby, Richardini Troupe, Takase, pictures.

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MACNAGHTEN CIRCUIT.

BLACKBURN.—Tom Ware, Gordon and Elgin, Geroda Trio, Lily Young, Quinn's Dogs, G.O. Harvard and Co., Lawson and O'Dell, Yamamoto and Koyoai, 3 Bimbos, pictures.

BRADFORD.—"Yellow Peril," Fannie Needham, Gilmore, A. Wyndham and Co., Wagner, Clarke sisters and Sterling, Bernard and Bonny, pictures.

BURNLEY.—Irve Hayman and Co., Ida Wynn, pictures, etc. Company as booked.

CARLISLE.—Howard and Colinson, Duncan's Dogs, Carpatti Bros., Renee Grahame, McGregors, Bert Earle, 2 Wilbur Boys, pictures.

HALIFAX.—Sammy Shields, Harry Moore, Arthur Ferrica, 3 Warringtons, Wee Josie, Elton and Edwin, "Wrong Uns," St. Hedier and Dorothy, pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.—4 Rosies, "Sneak Thief," Excelsior Troupe, Sados, Yaso, Maud Courtner, Ernie Beam, Mr. C., Tom Cand, pictures.

LINCOLN.—Little Nap, Eavicta Troupe, Gordon Brown, Ingeborg Neilsen, the Paceys, Ketos, Sam Redfern, pictures.

ROTHERHAM.—Dunbar's Repertory Co.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Auber, Winnie Seaman, pictures, etc. Company as booked. Nat Lewis.

SOUTHPORT.—Thornton and Wagner, Aldon and Loupe, Stein Ethor Trio, Ara Zebra and Vora, Mabel Moss, Waders, Brierley and Fenton, Adah Payne, Reg Wentworth, pictures.

WARRINGTON.—"Gentleman Ranker," Cyrus Dare, Marjutti, Wills Bros., Ben Albert, Pat Lynch, pictures.

Burnley bars Nelson, Accrington and Colne; Blackburn bars Darwen and Accrington. Rehearsal at all halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

(These calls are subject to alteration.)

BELFAST EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Six Gordons, Terse and Sherpe, pictures, May Newell, Musical Boldens, Pathé Gazette, Forbes and Forbes, Rawsons.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Curran, Kullervo Bros., Alvaretto Rego and Stopit, Baker and Bunn, Beaumont Trio, O'Hanlon and Rivkin, Beaumont Collins, Florence Turner, Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Vilmos Westony, Musto Trio, "How D'ye Do," Bioscope, Four Pattans, Sisters Le Roy.

BIRMINGHAM NEWTON PALACE (rehearsal, 12). Opens Jan. 1. Company as booked.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Four Vandykes, Edith Chantler, Pat Cohen, pictures.

BRADFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Forest Tell, Rosie Archer, "Saving Silver City," Marin and Lena, Victoria Monks, Austin and Rudd, Bioscope, Campbell and Scott, Chris Van Bern.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—J. A. Wilson, Mdlle. De Dio, Coram, Ina Lorimer, "Cowboy and the Girl," Bioscope, Alfred Leonard Trio, the Mackweys, Dave Bryant.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Frantz Bohm, Mazeppa and Zilla, picture entertainment.

CARDIFF PANOPTICON (rehearsal, 3).—Marjorie Dean, John Weil, picture entertainment.

DUBLIN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Dezso Kordy and Co., Eretto Troupe, Nora Freely, Gordon's Comedians, Murray and May, Edna Deno, Little Ella, pictures, Bryan O'Sullivan.

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Toch and Tard, Three Buckleys, Jock Whiteford, "What a Game," Bioscope, Arthur Woodville, Mansell's Juveniles.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Master Edward Garrett, Margit and Lena, Hill, Cherry and Hill, Phil Ray, Gertie Gitana, Billy Williams, Spiegler Quintette, Chas. Olcott, Ross and Lewis, Bioscope.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day and Edward Laurie's pantomime, "Aladdin" (Second week.)

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Al Bartley, the Maxwells, Walker and Lake, Chas. Whittle, Zona Vevey, Velanche's Dogs, Bioscope, Thornley Dodge, the Maxwells, Emerald and Dupre.

GLASGOW GRAND (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day and Edward Laurie's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

HULL PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 2).—Frank Wilson, Horace Hunter, Burr and Hope, Radford and Valentine, Kitty Dale, Phil Parsons, Alfred H. West, Bioscope, Bella and Bijou.

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Athas and Collins, Jack Lorimer, Motley Four, La Milo, Stelle Stahl, Sisters Royce and Sid, Wilfred Burnand, Huxter Bros., Bioscope, Billy Hobbs.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Christine Roy, Four Holloways, Crumbley and Glass, Miss Bertie Fowler, Arthur Roberts, Bioscope, 'Frisco Girls, Brull Hemsley, Short and Long, James Stewart.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—Great Olympia Circus (Second week).

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—"Hullo, Tango!" Bioscope, Bransby Williams, Irene Millar, Tony, Takiness.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—Julia Kent, Hunter and Bob, Julian Ross, Mark Sheridan, Terry and Lambert, Magini, Harry Herbert, Bioscope, Francis and Alfris.

NEW CROSS BROADWAY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day and Edward Laurie's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Thurston, Hanlon Bros., Ted and May Hopkins, American Ragtime Octette, Barcley Gammon, Mabel Sinclair, Bioscope, Ferroll Bros., Martini Trio, Devon and Earle.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—O'Gorman Bros., Howard and Harris, Pipifax and Panlo, Bioscope, David Paget, Les Andres, Robins Collier Trio, Hunt and Thomas, Franco Piper.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Maples, Halma, Fred Land, "Concealed Bed," Zigeuner Quatette, Max Hart's Six Steppers, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Sayton Trio, Bioscope.

NOTTINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 12).—Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Tom E. Hughes, John and Lillian Grand, Griffin and Ardell, Frank and Vesta, Chung Ling Soo, Hugh J. Emmett, Bioscope, Marjorie Dawson, Fred Wildon.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—George Rae, Frank Armstrong, Harry Freeman, Stewart and Morgan, Friend and Downing, Dancing Middies, Helen Moray.

STOKE NEWINGTON ALEXANDRA (rehearsal, 12).—Fielding and Hull, Leonard Robson and Co., picture entertainment.

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Bioscope, Trixie Marris, Tom Jones, "I Should Say So," the Krakes, Delevines, Herbert La Martini.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Seven Bramusas, Sandy McNab, Paulton and Dooley, Two Britons, Columbia Trio, Herbert Brooks, Karno's "Steam Laundry."

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—De Breans Three Reigals, "The White Mother," Fred Dyer Four Londons, Bioscope, Lucy Lynd, George Benson, Master Garnett, Russell Brandow.

WALSALL GRAND PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—Finnetta Sisters, Walter Denver pictures.

WALSALL, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Day's "Cinderella" (eight nights).

WALSALL IMPERIAL HALL (rehearsal, 12).—Picture entertainment, illustrated songs, etc.

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12) —Company as booked.

PITT'S PICTURE PALACES.

ABERSYCHAN.—The Eight Welsh Miners, Brez.

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LLANBRADACH.—Pitt's Stock Co.

PENARTH.—The Ormond Four, Swift Duo.

PONTYPOOL.—Woodward's Seals. Phil Bransby. Rehearsal, Monday, 1.

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—"Mind Your Backs," Nixon Grey, Tom Costello, Hinton and Wooton, G. S. Melvin, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Flood," the Harlequinaders, Le Grohs, Crystal and Saville, the Four Wards, Cissie Curlette, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—"Oh! Joy!" Ernest Scharff, Hurl and Ford, Jane Ayr, Bioscope.

CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Co. in "Her Wedding Night," Meriano Canine Dramatic Company, the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Thora, Scamp and Scamp, Harry Tom Parker, Little Marina, Edris Coombs, Evelyn Stoll, Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Vesta Victoria, "Wild Australia," T. E. Dunville, Emeric and Ainsdie in "Sold Out," Dorothy Tancred, Daphne Wynne, the Musical Johnsons, Dexter, Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—"Cinderella," Bioscope.

LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Always Tell Your Wife," Margaret Cooper, Oswald Williams, Baganny's "Lunatic Bakers," Femina Quartette, J. H. Scotland, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). —"Say When," Lamberti, Ernest Shand, Nelson Jackson, Conway George, Three Cape Girls, Bioscope.

NEW MIDDLESEX.—Mme. B. Rasimi's revue 'Cachez Ca,'' De Nanteuil, You-You, Gill Due, Selection, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12). —Bert Coote and Co., Gordon Elfrid and Co., Chanti, the Three Rascals Ackroyds, Albert Rees, Tony Black, Richards Wally, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Bert Coote and Co. in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Solo, "The Slave Dealers," Mirza Golem Troupe, Jen Latona, Fred Keeton, Thornbury, Lillian French, Hanbury and Schofield, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope.

SYNDICATE HALLS

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Six Brothers Luck, Ltd., the Craggs, Ryder Stone, Veronica Brady, Mabel Costello, Carpentier-Welle film, Will Norrie, the Crisps, Harry Hudson, Bioscope.

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—Wentworth Croke's grand pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Wentworth Croke's grand pantomime "Cinderella."

EUSTON (rehearsal 12).—John Lawson and Co., George Formby, Kitchen and Foy, Tom Lamor, Evelyn Taylor, Eric Kerry, Revon Romps, Scott and Whalley, Ernest H. Mills, Bioscope.

LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—Philip Braham's Co., George Prince, May Henderson, Horne Bros., Syd May, Beattie and Babbs, Four Amaranths, Malcolm Scott, the Kasrace, Hayman and Franklin, Anna Dorothy.

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.45).—Dr. Cook, Olga, Edgar and Elf Hudson, John Macauley, Jessie Lee Chinko, Lloyd Morgan, Rosie Lloyd, Minnie Kaufmann, Owen Clark, Sam Stern, Bioscope.

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OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—R. C. Rolls' Co., Chas. Aldrich, George Formby, Sam Stern, Mary Law, La Belle Nello, Jewel St. Leger, Achmid Ibrahim Troupe, Peggy Pryde, Tom Woodward.

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—John Lawson and Co., Tom Woodwell, "Why the Woman Told," Marie Kendall, Elsie Faye and Co., Walter Emerson, Gwennie Hasso, Eleven Romps, Monies and Welma, Bioscope.

TIVOLI (rehearsal, 12).—Cinquevalli, George Formby, Beattie and Babs, Nella Webb, Jock McKay, Cooper Mitchell, Elsie Faye and Co., Vernon Watson, Fritzi Von Derra, Three Lumars, Kenneth Casey.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 12).—F. Carpenter's grand pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk."

WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1). — R. C. Buchanan's grand pantomime "Sinbad the Sailor."

WATFORD PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—F. Carpenter's grand pantomime "Babes in the Wood."

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BIRMINGHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—J. W. Rickaby, Cunningham and Marion, Haydn Wood and Co., Christie Duo, Paul Vandy, Katie Butler, pictures, etc.

BOLTON HIPPODROME. — R. Nightingale's pantomime "Dick Whittington."

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME.—Fred Wilmot's pantomime "The Babes in the Wood."

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Should a Woman Tell?" Jean Kirk, "In the Future," Arthur Lennard, Laura Guerette, De Wynne Brothers, pictures etc.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Albert Bruno and Co., Potter, Dorinos, Horace Wheatley, Kathleen Mauren, Cave and Bunyea, Manny and Roberts, Clown Barker.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.—Conrad's Minstrels, Scarlet Rhapsody, Rembrandt, pictures, etc.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME.—J. F. Elliston's pantomime "The Golden Goose."

MANCHESTER PALACE.—L. Barnett's pantomime "Red Riding Hood." Matinée Monday.

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—Linga Singh etc.

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Les Persos, Bros. Leo, the Edwards, "I Should Worry," pictures.

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Dec. 16 to 31.—Fragson, Bradshaw Brothers, Cornalla and Eddie, W. C. Fields, Lipinski's Dogs, Selbinis, Three Meers, Renee Debanga, Norman French, De Caruso and Fenor, pictures.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1). —Marie Sindholme and Co., Olga Tcharno, Bart and Bart, Cognelli, pictures, etc.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME.—Dottridge and Lonzden's pantomime "Dick Whittington."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME.—Chas. Constant's "Little Miss Ragtime."

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"And Very Nice Too," Two Boyds, pictures, etc.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"What About It," pictures, etc.

LEON VINT TOUR.

ABERAVON PALACE.—The Dunvilles, Trumpet-Major Maddock, Henri Hilton.

BARRY DOCK PALACE.—The Pom Poms, George Adams, Laffan, B. Jolly.

ILKESTON PICTUREDROME.—Six Colbergs, Frank Maura, Del Vaine's Marionettes.

LLANELLY PALACE.—Cowboy Jupiters, Nellie Nora, Six Le Roys.

LONG EATON PICTUREDROME.—Belle Mora, Charles Ulrick, Loates and Stockdale.

LOUGHBOROUGH HIPPODROME. — Will Lacey, Edward Harold.

NEATH PALACE. — The Silverettes, Walter Stanley, Sterling and Love.

NORTHAMPTON PALACE.—Daisy Squelch and Co., Lomax and Cissie Wilton Warton.

NUNEATON HIPPODROME.—Pirmani Troupe, Meg and Jock, Five Dandy Mascots.

RUGBY PALACE.—Gerald Mount's Miniature Pantomime, Billy Simpson, the Four Powers.

Rehearsals at 1.30, with the exception of Aberavon and Long Eaton, which are at one o'clock.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

CHIPPENHAM PALACE.—D'Alva and Lauri.

EXETER PALLADIUM (late Queen's Hall).—The Clements, Damaris Du Pere, the Lauray Trio.

EXMOUTH PUBLIC HALL THEATRE.—The Five Sisters Volka, Delaware and Leslie.

FROME PALACE.—Jack Silvano, Leoni Clarke.

GUERNSEY THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—Musicus, Rydon and Company, Violet Ross.

JERSEY ALHAMBRA.—Buchanan and Scott, Dela Varco.

JERSEY OPERA HOUSE.—Ascot and Dewey, Oscar Mills' Nonentities.

PORTLAND MASONIC HALL.—The Quintons.

PORTLAND PALACE (EASTON).—The Quintons.

RADSTOCK PALACE.—Frank Weaver, Ada Gatley.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—Roxburgh-Reely's Co., "The Comedies."

SALISBURY PALACE.—The Geraldos, Simple Smart, Harry Valdeane, Signor Borelli.

[illegible]RIS PALACE.—King and Kingley, Rubie and Bella.

TROWBRIDGE PALACE.—Leon and Tee, The Lancers.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE PALACE.—The De Gonza Trio, Douglas and Mona, Norman Langford.

WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Bryant and May, Bryant Walters, Lens Sparke.

WEYMOUTH ROYAL JUBILEE HALL.—The Sisters Ruby, Wal Lesby, Blanchard, etc.

YEOVIL PALACE.—Morelli and Moore, Gertie Mason, Florence Ashley.

[Band rehearsals at each place at 1 o'clock, except Weymouth at 12.]

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—The Courtiers, the Lascenes, Hill and Marks, Betts and Keith, Musical Schafers, Sylvene and Florence, Fred Elliott, Lale King, Alec G[illegible]

ASTON HIPPODROME. — Haley's Juveniles, Flora Cromer, the Vinions, Arthur Clifton, Leonie Dixon, Grahame and Harrington, Lindon and McCrave, Kent and Craley.

BATH NEW PAVILION (rehearsal, 1).—Nava and Minton, Godfrey and Assistant, Dena Kay, Cambo and Castelle, Edie Gorf, Whitnee, Howard, and Barton in "Dumbstruck," and company as booked.

BATH PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—"All Square," Garadini, Mary Moran, Donna Barrington, pictures, etc.

BATLEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Paul Emanuel, the Tames, Daisy Graham, Will and Rose, the Arnolds, and pictures.

BELFAST PALLADIUM.—Chalmers Mackey, in "The Wearing of the Green."

BLACKPOOL PALACE (rehearsal, 2; matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30).—Maximo, Irene and Dunn, the Steeles, Four Krays, Five Clifton, Morton Jewel Troupe, Cave Cliffe, Simms.

BURTON THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Kirk and Saraski, Corona Gatty Trio, Camilla Feo, Ella Gibbs, Sisters Lavarra, Claude Raynor, H. Elinge, Bioscope.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME. — Whit Cunliffe, Claymore Trio, Bert Lloyd and Co., John Paley, Tod Lowen, Mason Wilbur and Jordan, Fred Sylvester and Co.

COWES VICTORIA HALL (rehearsal, 1).—Eleanor and Bertie, Jack Clevoner.

DONCASTER PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Two Anartos, Leolin, Kitty Clinton, The Snaefells, Tom Franks, Mr. and Mrs. Mannering, The Frohmans, Four Wetucaulems, pictures.

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE.—Mr. A. E. Smith's pantomime, "Little Bo-Peep."

DURHAM PALACE—Autumn, Lucy Gillett, Stacey and Williams, Harry Edson and Doc.

GLASGOW LYCEUM THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Wee Georgie Wood, Belle Sylvia, Three Sisters Birtles, Fox and Melville, The Placoris, Jim Max, The Harringtons, Cosgrove and Burns.

GLASGOW PARTICK STAR PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Leeburn's Ten Stars, the Phydoras, Jennion's Marionettes.

GLASGOW PAVILION THEATRE.—Carlisle and Wellman, Fred Russell, Aerial Smiths, Alice Carver and Co., Helen Martin, Williams and Wells, Louis Seymour, Dalmere's Circus, Queenie May.

GLASGOW WEST-END PLAYHOUSE.—Revue, "By the Way," Three Merrills, Lilian Rigby, Sisters Gordon, Bendetti Brothers, and others as booked.

GRIMSBY PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Fred Karno's Co. in "Wakes Week," Larko, Jumel and Ruby, Hal Griggs, Harry Drew, Ryde and Beeman, Chas. F. Hill, pictures.

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Arthur Bourchier and Co., the Aeroplane Ladies; Brown, Green, and Dixon; Sorretty and Antoinette, Griff, Dorrima Trio, Hanid Alexander, Empire Chronicle.

LONDON PALACE. — Weedon Grossmith and Co., Joe Jackson, Regine Flory and Co., Mika Mikum, La Pia, Arthur Prince, Palace Girls, J. P. Ling, Westwoods, Comedy Meisters.

LONDON VICTORIA PALACE.—"Step This Way" Co., May Moore Dupres, Alexandra Dagmar, Fred Hastings, Five Poncherrys, Gilday and Fox, Ivy Aberdare.

LUTON PALACE THEATRE.—Tango Dancers, Betts and Keith, the Seahorns, Wyatt, Psyche, Alice Lyal and Joe Bart, Holland Brothers.

MANCHESTER TIVOLI (rehearsal, 12).—L'Incognita, Baker and Gee, Harold Heath, Miller and St. Ivete, Original Cegrin, Fred Douglas, Clifford and Grey, Edna Lyall, Delia Shelton and Co., pictures.

NEWMARKET KOSY KINEMA (rehearsal, 3).—Two Allans, Frank Early.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Rose Sartella and Co., Bruno Pitrot, Barnard Family, Doraswami, Lew Morks, Alec Kendal, De Lilo and Metz, Tom and Marie Motramo.

PLYMOUTH PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 2).—Tom Edwards, Harry Marvello, Walsh and Ono, Harry Blake, Victor and Velma, Billy Marsden, Rose Hayes, Brothers Lawler.

POPLAR QUEEN'S (rehearsal, 1).—Herbert Leonard's Co. in "White Slave Life," Chas. Austin and Co. in "The Bombshell," Bessie Shephard.

RUNCORN PALACE (rehearsal, 12). — The Doves, in rings and trapeze; Agnes, Dolly and Maud, in speciality act; pictures; and company as booked.

SCUNTHORPE PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Fred Granville's Co. in play, "At the Mercy of the Mormons."

STANLEY VICTORIA THEATRE. — Narow Bros. and Lizette, Three Jumels, the Oakleys, Little Abie Cohen.

SURREY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12; matinée, 2.30).—Lottie Lennox, the Ten Loonies, Will Hay, Dora Lyric, Elsie Bower, the Fitzroys, Como, Billy Williams.

ULHAM GREEN GRANVILLE.—Harold Baker, Bros. Curran, Gilday and Fox, Edey Zerney, Linden and Berridge, Little Sunbeam, Bessie Slaughter, Albert Edward, 4 Paulasters, Bioscope.

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11; matinées 2.30).—Five Mongadors, Wyllie, the Soho Trio, Arthur Croxton, the Four Lis, Young and Evans, Frederica's Dogs, the Bon-Air Trio, Hippograph, and the Four Camerons.

PARS PERSONAL.

Mr. J. Langdon Lee, late licensee and manager of the Theatre Royal and Grand Theatre, Plymouth, has acquired a long lease of the Dalston Theatre, and requires first-class musical and dramatic attractions.

Miss Lord Lumley and Harry Liston, at the finish of their record week at the Hippodrome, Ripley, Derby, recently were the recipients of handsome gold and silver presents from the proprietors, Messrs. Marshall and Sons. Lumley and Liston return to Ripley in 1914 for the third time since August last.

The draw for the prettily worked and handsome table-centre worked by Miss Kate Rozner took place on the 15th inst. at the V.A.F. office in the presence of Mr. Joe Elvin. It was won by ticket No. 3—Will Poluski. The sum realised will go to the funds of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Institution.

Starting upon his annual hunting expedition for attractions for his well-known establishment in Coney Island, New York, Mr. Sam Gumpertz arrived at Cherbourg on the Oceanic Dec. 12, and will visit in the following order: Paris, Brussels, Berlin, Hamburg, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, and London. During Mr. Gumpertz's stay in Europe, communications can be addressed to him care of this journal.

Wishart, the well-known illusionist and society entertainer, was retained to present his famous "Bottle and examined Doubled Box" Mystery recently in the Royal Albert Hall, London. This was the first time an illusionist has been engaged to appear in this building. Mr. Wishart is the only illusionist that has appeared in the Great Queen's Hall twice.

Mr. E. Volta, formerly with Messrs. Anger and Bauer, has been engaged as representative of the Imperial Theatrical and Variety Agency, 20, Regent-street.

A legacy of £11,000 has, we are informed, been left to Mr. Fred Lewis, the famous European circus agent, by a deceased brother of Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.

Miss Ivan Steel has just finished a most successful sixteen weeks' tour [illegible] her song scena, "The Holy City," and is now with "Mother Goose" pantomime at the Palace, Ramsgate. Her first vacant date is March 30, 1914.

Geo. Aytoun, of 7, Prima-road, Brixton, S.W., informs us that he has two real funny skits for pantomime on the tango teas and moving pictures. Comedians would do well to write him.

An interesting presentation of two gold tie-pins was made recently to Mr. Hylton-Warde, who has just had to relinquish the principal comedian's part in Frank Rubens' successful revue, "Who's Got It?" (which played to crowded houses at the Empress, Brixton, recently) in order to fulfil a pantomime engagement at the Gaiety, Dublin, from which he could not be released. The presentation was made on behalf of the company in a graceful little speech by Miss G. Knibbs, and Mr. Warde suitably responded.

Mr. Arthur Carlton has engaged Mr. Montague Wigan to produce his pantomime, "Cinderella," at the Theatre Royal, Worcester. Mr. Wigan has also been retained to produce the annual Shakespearean Festival plays in April.

In addition to his duties as manager of the Burton-on-Trent Theatre, Mr. Harold P. Howell has been appointed secretary to the company.

Mr. W. H. Brougham concluded a highly successful tour as Nat Jeffcote, in "Hindle Wakes," on the 13th inst.

Mr. E. Blackall, Mayor of Devonport, writes:—"I have been approached by many of my fellow-townsmen to open a fund on behalf of Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock, who, unfortunately, through no fault of their own, have been nearly ruined in consequence of the destruction of their show in Richmond Walk, Devonport, by the recent fire at Messrs. Fox Elliot and Co.'s timber yard. I understand that the greater portion of their machinery has been destroyed, and that the same was not insured. I propose to start the fund with £5, and shall be pleased to acknowledge any contributions sent to me at 31, Kerr-street, Devonport."

The Tom Davies Trio have just finished the Gulliver tour with "Motoring in Mid-air," and have been re-booked for 1915. They sail on Boxing Day to play the Rickards tour in Australia, with South Africa and the Alhambra, Paris, to follow.

Mr. Charles Hunter Williams, manager of the Craigneuk Picture and Variety Theatre, Wishaw, was recently the recipient of some very handsome presents on the occasion of his leaving that theatre to take over the management of the Picture House, Duncon.

THE

LONDON VAUDEVILLE AGENCY

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All communications to General Manager, **ALFRED J. GOLDSTEIN.**

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EMPIRE NEW CROSS
THE KRAHES
PALACE · BELLSHILL
OAKES DUO
HOME FOR XMAS
MINNIE PAGET

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

[*London and other Theatre Advertisements appear on page* 18.]

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to inaccuracies of statement.

Correspondents should note that in future their reports and bills must reach us first post Monday

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Closed for rehearsals of Mr. Fred W. Warden's Christmas pantomime, "Peter Piper," which will be produced to-night (Wednesday).

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction here this week is "Only An Artist's Model," produced by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company. Miss Grace Heath furnished a clever impersonation of Alice Mason, and the rôle of Victor Ballard was sustained with much success by Mr. William Vane. A powerful impersonation of Rupert Slim was furnished by Mr. Edward Cudd; and Mr. Gerald Lee gave a realistic impersonation of Reggie Fairfax, a dude. Miss Helen Thompson was all that could be desired as Belle Loraine, and the rôle of Mrs. Macon was perfectly played by Miss Isabel Marte. Other rôles were satisfactorily sustained by Miss Leslie M. Cudd and Messrs. Edwin Turner, Percy Garland, Frank Wooton, Edward Mason, Ed. Letser, &c. Next week: "At the Price of His Life."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The holiday programme here is a good one, the leading attraction being provided by the Grotesques and Vivian Foster, who have been most successful with their comedy act, "The Village Concert." D'Arc's wonderful marionettes are a decided acquisition to the programme; and Tennyson and Wallis, the favourite comedians, are always welcome here. Mr. Stewart Ferguson is the happy possessor of a beautiful tenor voice; and the Three Storks are aptly described as marvellous herculean gymnasts. Also billed are Potts Bros. and company in "A Double's Troubles"; Trumpet-Major Wix, the bugle king; Falco and Elda, in ju-jitsu speciality; and the Hipposcope.

PALLADIUM THEATRE.—D., Mr. John Lawson; R. M., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—Closed Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Re-opening Christmas Day, when, at matinée, Chalmers Mackay's company will produce "Rollicking Rory," which will run nine nights. Extra matinées are announced.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill here is occupied by the original Maggie Benson, the clever comedienne, whose reception on Monday was certainly flattering; Mr. Tom E. Dean is a funny comedian with good songs; and also billed are Lillie Villiers, in musical act; Frank Sley, eccentric dancer; Little Ell, a juvenile impressionist; Sam Williams, comedian; Avro and Barr, in comedy conjuring; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element here is sustained by Day and Doreen, speciality artistes; and Harry Hardy, Dutch comedian and dancer. Pictures complete.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Tom B. Davis and Philip Rodway; A. C., Mr. Frank Smith.—Re-opens Boxing Day, matinée, with "Little Miss Muffett" pantomime. Full notice next week.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Prince of Wales' Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Re-opens Boxing Day, matinée, with "Puss in Boots" pantomime.

ALEXANDRA.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—Re-opens Boxing Day, evening, with "Cinderella" pantomime.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Lessee & M., Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Re-opens Boxing Day with "Beauty and Beast" pantomime.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. C., Mr. W. H. Bobby; Assist. A. M., Mr. Percy Whitton.—Twice nightly: Messrs Percy and Wilbur present a second edition of "The Rag-time Six," featuring the American Tango and new songs; Giordano justifies the description given him, "The great Continental entertainer"—he is an illusionist, phantasist, and hypnotist. Will and Jack Bernhart are smart comedians; Hill, Cherry, and Hill, in grotesque oddities, make their first appearance in Birmingham; Fred Wildon provides a bright entertainment with the aid of his phono-fiddle; Ruth Bucknall is a sweet soprano; Harry Herbert is a comedian with a novel style; and The Sayton Trio are up-to-date entertainers.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. C., Mr. Jas. Eyre Coward; Asst. M., Mr. C. T. Hutchison.—Twice nightly: A well varied bill, headed by Nina Gordon, who renders new songs at the piano, and Gerald Griffin, in the clever and amusing sketch, "Other People's Money"; Friend and Downing are first-class Hebrew comedians, and are responsible for much laughter; Rose Sartella has the assistance of six gentlemen in an artistic vocal melange, "The Pick of the Bunch"; Atlas and Collins are a smart comedy couple; the Three Buckleys introduce a clever electrical novelty; Fred Poplar is a popular comedian; and Kitty Wager is a fascinating comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—P., New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Frece; R. M., Mr. Harry Hamilton.—Twice nightly: Con Conrad's novelty minstrels are an excellent attraction for the festive week. Prominent in a good show are Terris and Romain, Wm. Martini, Harry Bright, Cabaret Four, Bert Leighton, and Matt M. C. Cone. Frank Elliston and company figure in a comedy sketch, "Three and a Room"; The Avolos present a clever gymnastic novelty; Daisy Dover is a bright comedienne; The Edwards are vocalists who are accorded enthusiastic plaudits; Kit Toms is a novelty in the comedy line; Bart and Bart are eccentric comedy knockabouts; and Tom Reno has some good comic songs.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. B. Kennedy; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Twice nightly: The Six Brothers Luck present their pantomimical extravaganza, "The Demon of the Cellar"; Spry and Moni are versatile comedians; Hal Bryan is a smart light comedian; Arcuius introduces a new musical act; and Dan Pedley, eccentric comedian and dancer; and Daisy Reed, comedienne, complete.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Twice nightly: Billy Arlington, the American comedian, appears successfully in a comedy sketch, "The Unexpected"; Frederick Sylvester and company are wonderful hand balancers, who introduce good comedy into their show; Bert Lloyd presents his burglary sketch, "What a Pal"; Dankeith introduces sketches and patter; Palleo and Cussick give a unique comedy act; Gus Garrick is a bright and cacertful entertainer; and the programme also includes The Claymore Trio, vocalists, dancers, and jugglers, and Tod Lowen.

BOLTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Alf Booth.—This week (twice nightly): Fregolia, in protean sketches; Harry Reason, comedian; Marin and Lona, jugglers; Renee, instrumentalist; Emeric and Ainslie; Barrett and Knowles, comedians; Santell, athlete; and pictures. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, 2.30.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert.—On Boxing Day the pantomime season will open with "The Forty Thieves."

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—The pantomime, "Mother Goose," will commence its run here on Boxing Day.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. H. Boardman.—The company here this week includes Miss Marie Studholme, in the sketch, "Her Ladyship"; Harry Marvello, in the magical problem, "The Silver Hat"; Bertram Banks, child mimic; Violet Essex, vocalist; and the Big Brass Seven, expert instrumentalists.

WEST PIER.—S., Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Rutland Barrington and company open here on Boxing Day with "The Gilded Pill."

PALACE PIER.—M., Mr. Gilbert Laye; Asst. M., Mr. Bernard Fleming.—In the theatre on Monday a matinée performance of "Don" was given in aid of the Brighton and Hove Naval and Military Veterans' Association. The cast included Messrs. Arthur Holmes Gore, R. Allen, Ivan Samson, and Mr. Elliot Hitblack, and Misses Montgomery Campbell and A. Montgomery Campbell. The performance was under the stage direction of Miss Elsie Chester. On Boxing Day the pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk" will commence an eight days' run in the theatre.

BRISTOL.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. J. Christie; Asst. M., Mr. Edward Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Twice nightly: The leading Christmas attraction here is the thrilling water spectacle "The Flood," written by Mr. Arthur Shirley. The water sketch is well acted by a very competent company, Mr. W. O. Bond's scenery is picturesque, and the sensational bursting of a huge lake high up in the mountains, which sweeps away the little village of Rippledene, is exceptionally realistic. Variety artistes appearing include Christine Roy, a pleasing vocalist; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls, in their smart entertainment; Coram, military ventriloquist; Charles Norton, mimic; and Hanbury and Schofield, in their clever entertainment. Pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—L. & M., Mr. Sid Macaire; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—Twice nightly: The Aerial Smiths present a remarkable act; the Cadillos are expert wire performers, their act being both amusing and clever; Lydia Probyn and the Eccentric Bates do excellently with their speciality of "mirth, fun, and eccentric bits"; Louise Zetland is an accomplished vocalist; Rall and Tando, comedy artistes, are appreciated; Dacre and Lynton do well with their sensational musical scena "The Tenor and the Burglar"; and Mirette and Maree, vaudeville artistes, are both clever and entertaining. Pictures conclude.

LIVERMORE'S PALACE.—M., Mr. Horace Livermore; Mus. D., Mr. Frederic Fey.—Continuous performance. This week we have a fine film production of the Christmas pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk." Conway Pierson's Serenaders concert party have been engaged, and another instalment of "Who will Mary marry?" is also included.

BURNLEY.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Tom Clare, at the piano; Brierley and Fenton, vocalists; the Two Lilleys and Assistant in acrobatic act; Marjory Lawson; Walter Wade, comedian; Mabel Moss, vocal comedienne; Leo Lilly and company; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): Francini, Olloms and Page, acrobats, jugglers, &c.; Tom Jersey, silhouettist; May Mayo, male impersonator; Al Bartley, comedian; Tilbury and Vere, vocalists; the Kaly Boys, vocalists and dancers; Edna Lyall, singer; Alfredo, violinist; and pictures.

CARDIFF.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly, Christmas Day excepted), Graham Moffat's Co. in "The Concealed Bed"; Max Hart's Six Steppers; Lucy Lynd, comedienne; Russell Brandow, the darkie; Master Garnett, musician; Gieretti Sisters, gymnasts; Three Riegels, acrobats; Miss Bertie Fowler; entertainer; Carl de Manest, violinist; pictures.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Ernest Archer; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—This week, Friday and Saturday (once nightly), Mr. George Dance's Co. in "The Girl on the Film." Cast includes: Mr. Reginald C. Hunter, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. W. Statham Staples, Mr. A. W. Bartlett, Mr. Forest Ware, Mr. Len V. Llenrap, Mr. Lawrence Bradford, Mr. Frank Ledington, Miss Edith Drayson, Miss Maud Lake, Miss Gladys Doree-Thorne, Miss Maud Aynscliffe, Miss Clarice Norman, Miss Honor Corall, Miss Renee Buckingham, and Miss Eva Brockwell. Matinées, Boxing Day and Saturday. Next week: "The Girl from Utah."

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—L., Productions (Croydon), Ltd.; M., Mr. W. Foster Horsfield; Mus. D., Mr. Len Trevor.—This week (twice nightly, Thursday excepted) Mr. Lauderdale Maitland and co. in "Under Two Flags." Cast includes: Mr. Miller Anderson, Mr. Terence Byron, Mr. Louis Palgrave, Mr. Charles Yorke, Mr. Charles Smith, Mr. Lawrence Rock, Mr. Frederick C. Liester, Mr. Reginald Parsons, Mr. William Pixton, Mr. Archibald Dupp, Mr. J. Prideaux, Miss Grace Denbigh Russell, Miss Phyllis Dailley, Miss Mabel Mannering, and Mr. Lauderdale Maitland. Next week: "The Catch of the Season."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly) Gipsy Woolf and Girls, including Poff Dee, in "Jimmy Valentine's Pal"; Fred Keeton, Julia Page and Co. in "Convincing a Husband," Mabel Thorne, the Dorremo Trio, Gus Harris, Bert Weston, the Palladium Minstrels, and pictures.

DEWSBURY.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; Asst. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week: Frank F. Street, in "The Gun Fighter"; Hurley and Bent, in comedy; Wilton Wharton, magical humorist and card specialist; Lace and Lemo, comedy duo; Violet Bartleman, instrumentalist; Four Minims, vocalists; Aubrey Standing, vocalist; the Adras Trio, equilibrists; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; Asst. M., Mr. E. Shepherd.—This week: Charles Santon, double-voiced vocalist; Blanche Hadden, vocalist.

DUNDEE.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M. & Licensee, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy.—"Queen of the Redskins" is presented here this week by Mr. Travis Green's company. Mr. Walter Graham scores a success as Broncho Bill; in the rôle of Wahnetah, Miss Connie Tremayne acquits herself with distinction; Mr. Charles Trevor makes a truly repulsive villain of George Lyndhurst; Mr. George Davis gives a thoroughly sound performance as William Lyndhurst; and an excellent interpretation of Matawah is supplied by Mr. Frank Litchfield. Mr. Gerald Hinton is decidedly good as Great Bear, and Mr. Francis B. Oliver plays Louis d'Elvan with complete success. Olive, the scheming villainess, is capitally interpreted by Miss Phyllis Orme, and Miss Phœbe Brady must be congratulated on her effective sketch of Little Queenie. Mr. Clarence Ibbotson is decidedly good as Sambo; Miss Agnes Webster neatly handles the part of Julia; Mr. Frank Brady as Fleetfoot does well, as does also Miss Violet Chesson as Pale Moon. The piece is well mounted. Next week: Mrs. Williams' pantomime, "Cinderella."

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. & Licensee., Mr. S. McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. E. B. Rogers.—Mr. Harry Burns produced his pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," here on Monday evening. A notice will appear in next week's issue.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; D. & A. M., Mr. Tom Lunn. The famous Scotch comedian, W. F. Frame, is going strong here this week. On Friday a special Burns' night is announced. The picture section is a strong one.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—Jack Clare with his fine répertoire of coon ditties meets with huge success; "Rob Roy's Coortin'," a new musical sketch of a humorous order, is capitally carried through by Douglas Turner, Gertrude Omard, and William Dun (the author); Peter McLean, the singing navvy, does a good show; Neil Neilson, in his banjo songs and dances, is well received; Mabel Comely, the female comic singer, is a born comedienne; and pictures complete.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh.—Chris O'Brien appears with great success in addition to a capital picture programme.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh.—Harry Stoll, negro comedian and dancer, supplies the variety portion of the programme here; pictures complete.

NEW ELECTRIC THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Arthur Howard.—Business continues exceedingly brisk at this popular house. Included in the current week's bill are "The Black 13" and "Paulette's Necklace."

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D.'s, Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Simon Ord; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The attraction chosen by the management for the Christmas and New Year holiday season is Mr. Robt. Courtneidge's production, "Oh! Oh! Delphine!" With a cast including Miss Iris Hoey in the name part; Mr. Harry Welchman, that bright, easy actor and admirable vocalist as Victor Jolibeau, and Miss Gwennie Kinross as Finette; Miss Annie Stalman as Madame Rax; Mr. Henry Frankiss as Colonel Pomponnet; Mr. James Stevenson as Blum; Miss Winnie Travers as Jacqueline; Mr. Charlton Morton as Louis Giroux; and Mr. Charles Franmore as Uncle Noel Jolibeau, the play is assured of a repetition of the success it has achieved in the English capital. Miss Gwennie Kinross and Mr. Harold Clemence will be seen in a pas de deux, and the chorus and orchestra are certain to be well directed under the capable leadership of Mr. Edwin Thornton.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; M. M., Mr. Charles A. Bayne; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—A return visit of the American Ragtime Octette with a budget of new songs provides a seasonable attraction for lovers of that presently popular form of minstrelsy, and the performers are very warmly welcomed. Walter Roy and Joseph Barker contribute an entertaining turn in their Scotch comedy sketch, "Six Weeks Hence," which affords great amusement; Aldon and Loupe display great skill as eccentric barrel jumpers; and Velanche's Football Dogs move the audience to much laughter and excitement; while Sammy Shields puts in a good twenty minutes on his own account in his usual happy style. Other enjoyable single-handed turns are supplied by Kitty Dale, a charming comedienne; Signor Proteo, the clever quick-change artiste; and Julian Ross, a smart light comedian; and some excellent up-to-date pictures are shown on the American Bioscope. A flying matinée by Mr. Arthur Bourchier and his West End company is announced for Christmas Day, when a triple bill will be presented.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—After a week's run, "Old King Cole" is going better than ever here. Mr. John Humphries as the King and Mr. Frank Fort as Queen Cole have ample scope for their humour, and take full advantage of the fact. Miss Clara Beck as Tom makes a first-rate principal boy, and every song she sings is encored. As principal girl Miss Ivey Latimer's charming vocalisation is keenly enjoyed. The Brothers Egbert work hard all through, and the laughs that fall to their credit are many. Miss Queenie Preston as the King's valet, and Miss Betty Green as Mary are an attractive couple. Mr. Alick Lauder is well suited as the Scotch assistant to the wicked magician. Miss Minnie Marshall is a neat dancer, and the golf caddie of Mr. Freddie Dunn deserves special mention. The Royal Octette of male voices, the Manchester Mites, and Tiller's Springboks in songs and dances ably add their quota to the evening's enjoyment.

HALIFAX.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—Friday (Dec. 26) and following week; Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in "Oh! Oh! Delphine!" Cast includes: Mr. Barry Brayne, Mr. Wallace Miles, Mr. Leslie E. Wurd, Mr. Walter Thomas, Miss Mia Sylvelin, Miss Theresa Kaye, Miss Rita Yule, Miss Renee Bagot, Miss Eva Kaymann, Miss Dorothy West Mr. Goodyer-Kettley, Mr. Dan Agar, Miss Ruby Vyvyan, Miss Mabel Stebbings, Miss Madeline Rees, Mr. J. B. Gordon, Mr. Fred Evison, Miss Nancy Benyon, Miss Annie Travers, M., Mr. Alexander Telford; Mus. D., Mr. D. Henderson, Mus.Bac.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Joe Henton.—Wednesday, Dec. 14, and following week (twice nightly): Mr. Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." Cast includes: Mr. Arthur Forsyth, Miss Mary Jerrison, Miss Lola Raycroft, Miss Ethel Clegg, Miss Mabel Court, Miss Nora Read, Miss Madge Roy, Miss Maisie Howland, Mr. Jack Shevill, Mr. Dan Lyall, Mr. George Franklin, Mr. Will Verno, Mr. Fred Lambert, Miss Violet Les Lands, Miss Ivy Les Lands, Miss Alice Raymond, Miss Peggy Walsh, Miss Frances Trayne, Miss Alice Parsons, Miss Emily Hulme, Miss Nellie Thompson, Miss Lilly Howland, Miss Dolly Liddle, Miss May Malcolmson, Miss Maisie Stanley, Mr. Bert Castle, Miss Nance Hodge, Miss Rose Hall, Miss Alice Leigh, Miss Emmie Loyall, Miss Girtie Gordon, Miss Gladis Asleton, Miss Constance Proffitt, Miss Lillie Chilton, Miss Tiny Taylor, Miss Kitty Conner, Miss Nora Nevill, Miss Ellen Scott. M., Mr. Carl Spencer; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Parsons.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week (twice nightly, except Christmas Day): Theo. Y. Johnson's Colonial boys in "Encamped"; Lily Young, comedienne; Frank Nava and Dorothy Minton, in "A Leap Year Proposal"; Carpatti Bros., gymnasts; Tom Child, tenor; Sados, juggler; Captain Frank H. Shaw and company in "All Square."

HUDDERSFIELD.

PALACE.—P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: The Motley Four, vocalists; Eight Lancashire Lads, singers; Miss Lena Bluette, vocalist; Marjutti, in "From Demon to Fairyland"; the Warrington Trio, equilibrists; the Alfred Rilford Trio, trick cyclists; Irve Hayman and Co. in sketch, "Xmas Eve"; the Barnard Family; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. S. Winks.—Closed until Friday, Dec. 26, when the house reopens with Miss Florence Baines and company in "Miss Lancashire Limited" for the two days of this and the whole of next week.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE.—O., Mortons, Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. John Greenwood.—This week (once nightly, commencing on Boxing Day): Messrs. Elliston and Laidler present "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Aimee Stewart, Miss Dorothy Belmore, Mr. Matt Kilduff, Mr. James Chippendale, Mr. Albert Lyon, Mr. Will Lindsay, Mr. Norman H. Lee, Mr. J. P. Marsden, Miss Madge Soutter. Miss Iris Lincoln, Miss Rosa Costa, Mr. Johnnie Austin, and Miss Minnie Myrie.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Owners, Mortons, Ltd.—This week (once nightly): Thomas Rhyde and company in "The Sheriff of Lonesome Pine." T. M., Mr. W. H. Pick. The company includes: Mr. Thomas Rhyde, Mr. Albert Paine, Mr. Austin Dean, Mr. Mark Henry, Mr. Laurence Atkins, Mr. Larry McDougal, Mr. T. W. Laurence, Mr. Steve Jackson, Mr. Harry Roberts, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Horace Cobham, Mr. Bud Munroe, Miss Lizzie Maddocks, Miss Renee Bevan, Miss Jean Marvin. (Matinée, Friday. Next week: "Her Ruined Life."

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnet.—This week (twice nightly): Victoria Monks, in new songs; Plattier Bros., musical acrobats; Chas. Vincent, comedian; Stella Stahl, soubrette; Jack Lorimer; Sisters Royce and Sid, vocalists and dancers; the Five Symphony Girls, in vocal harmony; the Four Millons, in gymnastic novelty; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—L., Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week (twice nightly): Max Erard's Co., in "Shepherdland"; the Snaefells, vocalists; Renee Ray; Atilla Bros.; Hurman; Conn and Conrad, in comedy act; Ernest Dottridge presents "The Dear Departed"; and pictures.

LEEDS.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—L., Palace Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & L., Mr. Chas. Bush; Mus. D., Mr. D. G. W. Jackson.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Will Casey and Co., in "A Wife's Devotion." The company includes: Edward Swinton, Frank Irwin, Edward Aldworth, Bert Carlton, George L. Tearle, Will Casey, William Fisher, Thomas Wood, Walter Bedford, J. Swift, Little Edie, Edith Tempest, Annie Mitchell, Minnie Watersford. Matinées, Monday and Friday, 2.30. Next week: "Oliver Twist."

HIPPODROME.—R. M. & L., Mr. Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—This week (twice nightly): Leo Stormont and company; Geo. W. Cunningham and Herman Marion; Guy Rider; Arthur Argent and Lilian Gwynne, in vocal melange; the Gayvilles; Paul Vandy, juggler; Zeno and Zeff; Miss Hope Charteris; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Friday, 2.30.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. J. Macdermott.—This week (twice nightly): Chung Ling Soo; Conway George, comedian; Billy French, dancer; Flo Esdaile, vocalist; Anna Hana; Tom E. Hughes; Griffin and Ardell, eccentrics; Hugh J. Emmett; and pictures.

VARIETIES CITY PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Fox Nelson.—This week (twice nightly): The O'Mahonys, singers; Bert Rayburn, comedian; Zadie Vone Trio, in musical and vocal speciality; Newman and Merton, comedy duo; Violet Gerald; the Vedras, in acrobatic act; and pictures.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Louis Karpe; Mus. C., Herr Theo Klee.—This theatre reopens to-morrow (Thursday) afternoon with Messrs. C. St. John Denton and Baron Harris's pantomime "Sinbad the Sailor," an account of which will appear in our next issue.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; A. M., Mr. George F. Warwick; Mus. C., Mr. J. H. Vann.—As the holiday attraction here Will Onda is presenting Messrs. Travis Green and Graham Winsford's company in "The Pride of the Prairie." A big cast includes: Graham Winsford, Percy Morton Wright, William Haynes, Magill Martyn, Arthur Duval, Harry Sidney, Henry Goodier, Will Pfounds, William Cann, J. J. Stadden, Eddie Vane, Tod Squires, John Smith, Cecil Harding, Ling Treherne, Leonard Gardener, Jack Entwistle, Ben Batty, Ernest Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Werner, Alfred Sooper, Elsie Dene, Amy Maitland, Louie Campbell, and Ethel Bickham.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds; Asst. A. M., Mr. W. F. Stewart; Mus. C., Mr. John W. Lowe.—An excellent holiday programme here is contributed to by the new revue, "Mind Your Backs!" produced by Mr. Harry Grattan. It is a kind of entertainment that always finds acceptance with Leicester audiences, and a word of praise should be meted out to the principal artistes, who include Horace Lane, Violet Gray, Frank Budge, Wilfred Lewe, Eileen Douglas, Marius Gerrard, Ella Kaye, Lina Hicks, and Howard Alford. Fred Curran, the popular comedian; Kathleen O'Hanlon and Karl Rivkin, presenting some clever dances; Evelyn Bingham, a favourite local soprano vocalist; and Will Hay, the funny schoolmaster comedian, are other artistes who contribute to the entertainment with deserved success. Next week: Duncan and Godfrey's pantomime, "Cinderella."

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. C., Mr. Fred Butcher.—A good all-round holiday show here is billed, the artistes including La Valti, with her bevy of girls, in enchanting and bewildering dances, introducing Mlle. Mills in her latest creations, a very pretty turn; Nicol Bros., cycling comedy artistes; the Six Gordons (five ladies), and the comedian, James Guidery, in vocal and dancing scena; Adkin, the motoring ventriloquist; Welda and Wynne, comedy juggling and dancing team; Billy Rogers, the Labour candidate; and Sims and Hurst, harmonious comedians. Pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., the New Bioscope Trading Company; R. M., Mr. Charles R. Craig.—In addition to a special display of pictures, Jack Crewe, comedian and dancer, is the additional attraction.

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HAVE NOW ORGANISED A NEW SEPARATE DEPARTMENT FOR IMMEDIATE AND MONDAY NEXT BOOKING
DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien H. Wilson.—The pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," will be produced this (Wednesday) evening.

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Shea.—Here, on Friday afternoon, Mr. Kelly will start his pantomime, "Cinderella."

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Colls; Mus. D., Mr. Noel Vincent.—This (Wednesday) evening, Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery are to submit their pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

REPERTORY.—P., Liverpool Repertory Theatre Company, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. T. J. Piggott; Mus. D. Mr. Joseph Smith.—This (Wednesday) evening the Repertory Company will start a season of "Twelfth Night," while matinees of "Shockheaded Peter" are to be presented by Mr. Philip Carr.

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Harry L. Carlo; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—On Boxing Day a six weeks' season of Moody Manners opera will be commenced.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—Foremost here this week was a presentation by Mr. Fred Kitchen of Harry Piddock and Co. in the lively sketch, "Bungie's Luck," which created great merriment; that talented and popular comedienne, Zona Vevey, had a flattering reception for her attractive musical turn, being accompanied by Max Erard on the piano; Ernest Shand proved as funny as ever, and delighted all; as a Scottish comedian and dancer, G. S. Melvin was an excellent turn; Violet King showed high accomplishments as an entertainer at the piano and violinist; John Weil displayed some smart conjuring; Albert Rees submitted a neat drawing-room entertainment; and the Kullervo Bros. were able acrobats and equilibrists.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Company, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mons. R. Klasse.—A fortnight's visit of Mr. James Kiddie's pantomime, "Cinderella," was started here on Monday. It is bright and funny, and should earn big support from the residents of the north end. Miss Lily Ennis was a captivating Prince; the rôle of Cinderella was charmingly undertaken by Miss Violet Thorne; Ernie Percival (Baron), Arthur Lucan and Billy Wersley (Ugly Sisters), and George Bray (the Page) provided great fun; Mr. Gordon H. Simcock was the evil genius; Miss Bessie Willow, (Fairy Godmother); and Miss Ada Tyrrell (Dandini). The Sylphide Troupe of lady dancers appeared with effect, and there was an excellent mechanical change.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—Patrons here have this week been treated to a really good pantomime "Babes in the Wood," presented by Lew Lake and Co. There is a deal of genuine fun provoked by Bob Morris and Lew Lake as the robbers; Mr. Tom Packer showed up well as the Baron; Fred Sinclair and Grace Whiteford were the Babes; a humorous Dame came from Edie Veno; Miss Clara Davine was the Robin Hood; and Miss Lillie Kendal played Maid Marion with taste. Specialities were introduced by the Six Buster Browns, Gene Morelle, and Bob Morris.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Mus. D., Mr. G. Dibbert.—The stock company have this week given twice nightly "A Girl's Temptation," in which good work was done by Messrs. Harry Tresham (Guy Warren), Charles Dickens (Mark Klaw), John Davidson (Jim Judd), Leo Montgomery (Sammy Sniggles), E. D. Allan (Stirling and Isaacson), Miss Norah Caronne (Annie Brown), and Miss F Melrose Millett (Kate Stirling).

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. B. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—There was a crowded audience here on Monday evening, when a colossal circus started a six-week's stay. The idea comes fresh to Liverpool, where for many years Hengler's reigned supreme, and there is every reason to believe that the present visit will prove a success. The audience on Monday night gave the show a hearty welcome, which it richly deserved, for it is about the best that Liverpool has witnessed for a long time. There is plenty of fun, beauty, and brightness about it, and the whole goes with a delightful swing; while the vast circus ring affords animals and performers plenty of room. Then the fact that many tiers of seats are placed upon the stage add to the holding capacity of the building, which is already capable of accommodating over 4,000. The opening item was provided by Palo and Sellery, knockabouts; then came Busch's 16 Arabian thoroughbreds, which were put through some astonishing movements by Mr. Eschberger; afterwards the Flying Hegelmans provided a marvellous performance on the trapeze; Hickey's comedy mule caused shouts of laughter; the Pissiutti (lady and gentlemen) on the galloping steed performed feats which called forth rounds of applause; Captain M. Rudolf's elephants, pony, and dog, showed a high degree of training; and the whole concluded with a screamingly funny water spectacle "The Soakum Regatta." The principals in that were Messrs. George Ricketts, Percival Kempster, Jack Pollard, Charles Stevens, Fred Barton, and Miss Elsie Lillis. The various incidents introduced were particularly funny. Mr. Pat A'Becket very efficiently undertook the rôle of equestrian director. Thanks were due to Mr. Ernest Wighton and Mr. E. W. James, the firm's managers, for the complete manner in which the huge undertaking was arranged.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Here this week the attraction has been Dottridge and Longden's pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," which proved very acceptable. Included in a capable list of artistes were Messrs. Arnold Richardson (Idle Jack), H. Plockton Foster (Fitzwarren), K. Scott Barrie (Dame), the Hennessays (comedians), Charles North (Emperor), Victor Hunter (Rat King), Miss Marie Braymen (Dick), Miss Rita Vincent (Alice), and Miss Alice Watling (Princess). Specialities were given by the Astoria Sextette.

MANCHESTER.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. Horace Cole; Asst. M., Mr. Fred C. Brooks; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred Haines.—"Say When," Mr. Leonard F. Durell's musical aquatic comedy, enters on its second week here, and full houses are the rule. Other attractions are Green and Wood, the funny tumbling comedians; Allan Macdonald and company, in Scottish sketch, "The Elder of the Kirk"; Harry Joey, the Australian "nugget"; the Musical Johnstons, experts on the xylophone; Vickey Delmar, in pleasing novelty scena; and Liane Klaw and company in "1831." Bioscope pictures complete. Matinées, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 2.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—P. and F., The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; M., Mr. Arthur Trussell; Mus. D., Mr. Leo. T. Croke.—The Imperial Manchester Troupe of Chinese top the bill here in a clever act with an elaborate setting, and meet with a big reception. The Lawtons make a hit in a smart drawing-room vocal scena; and the Moston Duo are capital comedians. Other enjoyable turns are offered by the Brothers Dean, the Flying Winskills, Cecilia Heywood, Bob Hayes, George Young, and Ivy Frances. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 2.15. Next week, "L'Incognita."

NEW PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Alan W. Young; S., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. M. Gaggs.—Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," is the attraction here for two weeks, a full report of which appears on another page. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 2.15.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—This week (twice nightly): The Six Brothers Luck are highly amusing here in sketch, "Unsealed Orders," by Mr. C. Baldwin; a fine show. Frank Cass, actor-vocalist, as usual, makes a hit; Lew Marks, the new parody comedian, is deservedly well received; Dorothy Quire, a charming soprano with a good voice, sings taking songs; Alice Edwards is a capital male impersonator; Bish and Bish are entertaining in versatile pot-pourri act; and Cole and Rags are amusing and clever jugglers. Matinée, Friday, 2.30.

OPENSHAW ALHAMBRA.—L., The Alhambra (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. H. D. Moorhouse; G. M., Mr. Arthur S. Hvanson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Harney.—Closed until Boxing Day, when Messrs. Moorhouse and Harrison will produce pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," with an all-star company.

LESLIE'S PAVILION, RUSHOLME.—P., Mr. Harry Leslie; A. M., Mr. George Phillips.—Mr. Sydney James and his Strollers are here for fourteen nights and three matinées, commencing 26th inst. The company is a strong one, including, besides Mr. James, the following well-known artistes:—Miss Gwen Lewis, Miss Olive Mortimer, Miss Elsie Videan, Miss Nellie James, Mr. G. W. Desmond, Mr. Frank Halpin, and Mr. Cyril N. Northcote.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L. and M., Mr. J. Charles Imeson.—Closed for rehearsals of "The Forty Thieves," which will be produced Dec. 26. Cast to include: Miss Maud Esmond as Ganem; Miss Mona Vivian as Morgiana; Mr. Fred Walmsley as Ali Baba; Mr. Edwin Garth as Dame Cogia; Mr. Jimmy Learmouth as the terrible Hassarac; and Messrs. Cullen and Carthy as Arabian Police. Specialities by Twelve Tiny Tots and the Four Joburg Girls. Producer and Stage-Manager, Mr. Truman Towers; Mus. D., Mr. Alan D'Albert.

ROYAL.—P., Mr. J. Charles Imeson; A. M., Mr. George Imeson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Foxwell's Co. presents "The Gambler." Cast includes: Messrs. Stanley Healey, Dane Clarke, Chas. H. Mortimer, Geo. Porteous, George Scully, Edgar Charles, Jack Howard, J. E. Josiah, E. Burr, Ernest Thomas, John Allen, Misses Rosalie Notrelle, Eileen Murray, Jennie Clare, and Winnie Thompson. Next week: "The Collier's Lass."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. William Basteman; M., Mr. W. K. Chatto; Mus. D., Mr. Walter Scott.—This week (twice nightly): "What Ho, Ragtime!" including Paul Barnes, Dulcie Delmar, Eileen Lawler, Phyllis Ruffell, Fred E. Pedgrift, Kenneth Darrell, and Willie Robbins. Will Tyler; Essie; "The Live Waiters," presented by The Paulastos; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Thomas Thompson; M., Mr. R. Frank Parker; Mus. D., Mr. Henry J. Waldrow.—This week (twice nightly): H. F. Carnforth and Sidney Burns present "Forty Girls and a Staircase"; Frank and Vesta; and pictures.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—This week (twice nightly): The Oh-I-O Girls; Ted and May Hopkins, comedy couple; Fred Land, comedian; De Breans, in Japanese entertainment; Julian and Lilian Grand, vocalists; Kitty Clinton, comedienne; Baker and Bann, comedy cartoonists; the Mackweys, comedy wire performers; and pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (once nightly): Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., in the pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood." Cast includes: Mr. Geo. E. Green, Mr. Leslie Digby, Mr. H. L. Jones, Mr. F. W. Nash, Mr. T. H. Noel; Miss Ethel L'Estrange, Miss Lucy Powell, Miss Nora Martyn, Miss Dot Fra, Miss Vera Russell, Miss E. Burgess, Miss E. Brooks, Miss C. Hornsby, Miss Beryl Grey, Miss Daisy Lyric, and Miss E. Estelle.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Black Brothers; R. and M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): Les Napiers, in juggling scena; Ellis Barrieton, chorus singer; the Four Syn-Co-Pates, in novelty act; and pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. A. H. Williams; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—One of the smartest, brightest, and liveliest of revues is seen in "Alice Up-to-date," presented by the composer, Mr. Philip Braham. There is an abundance of charming music, and the fun is excellent, while the staging and dressing are superb. The splendid company includes Rita Otway, Sybil Clare, Fay Lonnen, Davy Burnaby, Fred Winn, Bernard Ansell, John Latham, Jack Evans, Bijou Dreno, and a fine chorus. The production is by Sydney Ellison. Bellew and Stock's Co., including Master Garrett, are accorded no stint in applause for the comedy sketch, "Mortimer Magnus, M.P." A merry combination is found in the Musto Trio, and capital items are rendered by Irene Millar, comedienne; Larry Lewis, comedian; and Chris Van Bern, comedian.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Asst. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wright.—The return of Joe Peterman with "The Pawnbroker" is welcomed by good audiences. Great interest is taken in the skilful and graceful entertainment submitted by Geo. Ray's "Eight Football Skating Girls," who are given a hearty reception. James Willard and Co. present an excellent and well-played sketch in "The Red Prince"; the Croisit Trio are seen in a clever acrobatic performance; a refined musical act by Les Warrens calls for high praise; Ruby Maybutt dances neatly and smartly; Bert Danson's burlesque finds favour, and Jock McPherson helps the fun by his eccentricities.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry Harris.—This week (twice nightly): Stanley Carlton presents "The White Slaves of London." The company includes: Mr. Stanley Carlton, Mr. William G. Marshall, Mr. Thomas Marshall, Mr. Geoffrey Broughton, Mr. R. F. Wilson; Mr. Edward Fry, Mr. W. H. Vernon, Mr. Fred Coutts, Mr. Dan Warden, Mr. Fred Garth, Miss Cynthia Marshall, Miss Florence Young, Miss Mildred Chapman, Miss Alice Thorne, Miss Muriel Lawson, Miss Annie Ross, Miss Pauline Walker, Miss Charlotte Bellinger, Miss Nellie de Lacy, Miss Rubie Maude. Matinée, Tuesday and Friday, 2.30. Next week: "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry Kilrow.—This week (twice nightly): Joe Redfern's pantomime "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Dorothy Veitch, Miss Val Gerald, Miss Winnie Victoria, Miss Mary Turner, Miss Jenny Mason, Miss Nellie White, Mr. Sid Railton, Mr. Olly Cromfield, Mr. Will Charlton, Mr. Harold Carlyle, Mr. George Houghton, Mr. Walter Amner, and Mr. Willie Westwood.

PALACE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Edmund Sharrocks.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Sylvia Cavalho and company in "A Visitor from Venus"; High Davis and company; Marie Coates, comedienne and dancer; Alberta Frahey, violinist; Mark Stuart, comedian; Arthur Clifton, comedian; Josephine Langley, ventriloquist; Edrid, equilibrist; and pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee & M., Mr. J. Boughton.—On Friday, Dec. 26, Harry Day and Edward Lauri will present "Dick Whittington." Cast includes: Miss Helen Charles, Miss Rosie Pink, Miss Alice Nixon, Miss Violet Stockelle, Miss Tina Aguzzi, Mdlle. Ramona, Miss Amy Venimore, Mr. R. H. Douglass, Mr. Harry Rogerson, Mr. Bruce Green, Master Tommy Edmonds, Mr. Hugh Webb, Mr. Ellis J. Preston, Fred and Gus Macnaghten.

KING'S THEATRE.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—This week (twice nightly, Christmas Day excepted).—Tom Edwards, ventriloquist; Miss Mollie Seymour, in comedy; Forest Tell, vocalist; Alice Carver and Co., equilibrists; France and Stewart, in comedy sketch; the Five Poncherrys, in wire act; Harold Finch, comedian; Frank Pichell and Scale, acrobats; Will Van Allen, comedian; pictures.

NEW PRINCES THEATRE.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—For eleven nights, from Monday, Andrew Emm presents "Woman and Wine." Cast includes: Mr. Dallas H. Keand, Mr. Edward Valentine, Mr. W. T. Riley, Mr. Henry Victor, Mr. Willie Scott, Mr. Hal Charlton, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. Harold Martin, Mr. Reggie Beaulieu, Mr. Arthur Bann, Mr. W. H. Moore, Mr. Charles Wingate, Mr. Alfred Nightingale, Mr. Bert Lyons, Mr. Thomas, Mr. M. R. Collins, Miss Helen Richmond, Miss Louie Valentine, Miss Hilda Holloway, Miss Laurie Potter, Miss Daisy Gwynne, Miss Nannie Meade.

HIPPODROME.—P., Portsmouth Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Freece; R. M., Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—This week (Christmas Day excepted) Bert Coote presents "A Lamb on Wall Street"; Beatrice Swindle, the English Venus; Signor Borelli, humorist, etc.; Mary Moran, in character sketches; Royal Barile Quartette; Fred Cary, comedian; Herbert Brookes, mystifier; pictures.

COLISEUM.—This week (twice nightly, except Christmas Day) Fred Eustace and Co. in "Our Curate"; Lill's Stars, vocalists; Harry Luck, comedian; the Kavaghners, juggiers; Phil Coleman and Lydia Alexandra, in singing act; the Seahams, vaudevillists; Brinn, in sensational act; pictures.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Mr. E. B. Goulden; L., Messrs. R. Nightingale and S. S. Gordon; G. M., Mr. D. O. Clark.—This week (once nightly): Charles Locke presents "Bonnie Mary." Cast includes: Geo. Lyttleton Holyoake, Geo. Dudley, John Cullen, Sidney A. Monckton, Tom Lyle, Wallie Spinner, Chas. Myers, Tom Senior, Wm. Grante, Frank Preston, Leah Marlborough, Lydia Spinner, Alice Morr, and Lissa Young. Matinées, Wednesday and Friday, 2.30.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—This week: Pantomime, "Dick Whittington," twice nightly, with Edna Latonne as Dick, and Sisters Bechstein, Ellis and Murray, Alfd. Clegg, La-Fayne, Tiny and Mite, Gwennie Morgan, (Miss) Tommy Atkins, Ted Young, Laurie Lynn, Dan Dobson, Clifford Mortimer, and Harry Labelle.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—This week: John Tiller's pantomime, "Aladdin," is presented (twice nightly, and matinées Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday at 2.30) this week. Cast includes: Jimmie Pullin, Barney Dixon, Willie Austel, Nora Stafford, Nellie Grimshaw, Nellie Corti, Jack Audley, Elsa Craig, Edwin Jaye, Tom Gott, and Ethel Negretti. The Imperial Troupe of Dancers and John Tiller's Twelve Little Snowdrops do some smart manœuvres and dances.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Mr. Tom Sherlock (twice nightly, and matinées Monday, Wednesday and Saturday) in illustrated songs; and the pictures.

SHEFFIELD.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—This week the following excellent programme is presented twice nightly: Mr. Fred Karno's musical absurdity, "The Hydro"; Holden's famous marionette theatre, with up-to-date scenes and electric fittings; Lizzie Glenroy, vocalist and entertainer; Jock Whiteford, vocalist and dancer; Scamp and Scamp, in a smart and amusing comedy-gymnastic act; Rosie Archer, in a refined vocal and musical turn; the Four Boises, the "Human Aeroplanes"; and the popular comedian, Austin Rudd. Matinée on Boxing Day, at 2.

HIPPODROME.—P., the Sheffield Hippodrome Co. Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frank Poole.—The name of Mr. J. F. Elliston, of Bolton, is a sure guarantee of "good goods," and his funny and gorgeously-mounted pantomime, "The Golden Goose," proved to be a certain winner on Monday. Both houses received the annual with enthusiastic applause, and principals, chorus, and ballet all worked hard, inspired by a generous management. Leading characters were well played by Miss Ethel Hall, the bright and vivacious Jack; Frank Melville, Hart and Edie, Alec Godfrey, Goodfellow and Gregson, the well-known variety artistes; and Miss Eva Godfrey. The grand staircase was a splendid climax to the spectacular attractions. Mus. D., Mr. J. G. Hahn. Matinées on Friday and Saturday, at 2.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—G. M., Mr. F. W. Holmes.—This week (twice nightly and matinées) are appearing Little Sadie, vocalist and dancer; the Three Melody Maids, entertainers; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

HIPPODROME. — P., The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley; Mus. D., Mr. James Southworth.—This week (twice nightly): The Capts. Wood and Green, in society entertainment; "The Great Arvi Mystery"; Conquelli, entertainer; Campbell and Scott; Francis and Alfred; Randford and Noel, burlesque artistes; Olga Tcharna, singer; and pictures.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. and M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty; Mus. D., Chas. Pearson.—This week (once nightly, commencing on Xmas Eve): Messrs. Holland and Dean's Co. in "Aladdin." The company includes: Steane Lough, Mr. Billy Batton, Miss Poppie Holland, Zoe and Bunnie, Francesca, Miss Corri Thompson, Miss Lily Lonsdale, Mr. Fred Hutchings, Mr. Ernie Myers, Brothers Valdo, Mr. Rob Currie, Little Emmie, and Miss Mabel Hind. Matinées, Boxing Day, Saturday, Tuesday, New Year's Day, and Saturday, Jan. 3. Specialities by The Avrignys, jugglers; Bertha Smillie, singer; Brothers Valdo; The Four Nations, dancers; and Mlle. Pauline Rivers' Twelve Sunshines, singers and dancers.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—This week: Mr. S. F. Davidson's fifth pantomime company in "Mother Goose." Cast includes: Messrs. Morny Cash, George Miller, Walter Pink, Will Buston, George Gee, Val Morgan, Jack Ricketts, and Misses May Garstang, Katie Kay, Winifred Norman, Maisie Ayling, Hilda Brent; and Alice G. Vearing. The Brooklyn Comedy Four and Mme. Martell's Troupe of Dancers (principal Gautner). C., Mr. Fred Brown.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden.—This week: The drama "The Old Home." Cast includes: Miss Eva Terenna, &c.

EMPIRE.—P., The Sunderland Empire Palace, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. E. Barnes.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno presents "The Mumming Birds"; Helen Moray, prima donna; the Du-Cros Trio, comedy gymnasts; Amasis, magician; Duncan's Collies; the Musical McGregors; the Subtel Trio, musicians; and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—This week: Sharp's Tromboneers, in military interlude, "The Officers' Quarters"; the Flying Fishers, comedy aerialists; and Harold Heath, vocalist.

AVENUE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. Phil Rabey.—This week: Wyndham and company in the playlet, "Nell Gwynne"; the Four Rings, vocalists; and Rondrelle, vocalist.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." T. M., Mr. C. Deering. The company includes: Harry B. Clark, Frederick Monti, George McCloskie, Howard V. Cropton, Hatton Sinclair, O. Ronald, Arthur Haytor, Hugh Allen, A. Scott Cullen, Rita Everard, Violet Gower, Madge Escolme, Jennie Armstrong, Gloria Egmont, Rhoda Weekley, Maud Underwood, Dorothy Stacy, Nellie Brame, Jean Robinson, Winnie Develin, Nesta Allen. Matinées, Friday and Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Gipsy Love."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Geo. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly, Christmas Day excepted) G. M. Ballanger presents "The Cowboy and the Girl"; Edith Chantler; David Paget, violinist; Les Andres, dancers; Robins and Collier Trio, in comedy; Hunt and Thomas in "Father Time"; Pipifax and Panlo, humpsti-bumpsti; pictures.

YORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; R. M., Mr. Sidney Brooke.—This week (twice nightly): Wee Georgie Wood; the Three Safes, in gymnastic act; the Koncertos, in musical scena; Katie Butler, comedienne; Sara Rosebury, in songs and stories; the Sable Three and Searlem, in dancing act; Cosgrove and Burns; and pictures. Matinée, Friday, 2.30. Next week: "Little Jack Horner."

Messrs. Allen and Hanburys, Ltd., of 37, Lombard-street, E.C., are the manufacturers of a pastille unexcelled for the promptness and efficiency with which it brings relief to sufferers from sore throat or any of the other afflictions so prevalent at this time of the year. The "Allenburys" glycerine and black currant pastilles are carefully prepared from the purest glycerine and fresh black currant juice. The fact that they are entirely free from drugs renders them quite harmless. They are particularly recommended to actors, actresses, and professional singers. The "Allenburys" glycerine and black currant pastilles can be obtained at any chemists. They are put up in 2oz., 4oz., 8oz., and 1lb. tins at 6d., 1s., 1s. 7d., and 3s. each. Care should be taken to see that the trade marks "Allenburys" and a plough are on every box.

"IN PURPLE INK."

Play, in Three Acts, by "Percy Fullerton," Produced by the Liverpool Municipal Officers' Guild at the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre, on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

Walter James ..... Mr. James Sexton
Martha James ..... Mrs. Harold Dickinson
Mary ..... Miss Lawrence
Wilson ..... Mr. Angus Wall
George Mannering .... Mr. Harold Leighton
Nora James ..... Miss Helinor Harding
Timothy Smiggins ..... Mr. E. Skinner
Howard Fletcher ..... Mr. J. Eric David
Chief Counting Assistant....Mr. G. J. Mahon
Mannering's Agent ..... Mr. F. B. Lunt
James Worthington ..Mr. Ernest A. Strugnell
Worthington's Agent.....Mr. G. T. Starbuck

There was a large attendance of the friends and admirers of the author (who is a well-known Corporation official in Liverpool) when this latest product of his pen was offered for approval at the Shakespeare Theatre; and it must be said that the amateur players, into whose keeping the work was entrusted, did excellent work in endeavouring to bring out its strong points. Taken altogether, "In Purple Ink" may, with some revision, find acceptance.

Briefly, the story sets forth that a Mr. Walter James has become a man of wealth and position through having purchased a certain successful invention which saves labour in his mill. George Mannering, the inventor's son, however, whilst in the employ of James, has an idea that the happy condition of his master is due to his (Mannering's) father, and consequently, for some unaccountable reason, steals certain papers and money. Mrs. James suggests the man's arrest, but her husband points out that such a step could not be taken, because among the missing papers was one written in purple ink by herself making a confession regarding the young girl Nora, living in the house, who believes that he and she are her father and mother.

The second act shows a counting-room where an election is proceeding. Mr. James is the presiding Alderman, and, the figures being equal, gives his casting vote in favour of Mannering, whom he has dismissed from his employ, but who has married Nora.

Some months afterwards, when James visits the house of the discarded Nora and her husband in order to make amends, Worthington, the defeated candidate, who at the polling threatened James with sorrow for having given the casting vote against him, announces that he is the father of Nora—a fact which James admits. Worthington has also brought the police to arrest Mannering for the theft, but is informed that the money and papers have been returned, so that there will be no prosecution. The "villain" is then got rid of by the expedient of a policeman coming in to arrest him for inciting to impersonation.

Special thanks are due to Mrs. Harold Dickinson for her short-lived but excellent impersonation of Mrs. James; the rôle of George Mannering was very ably handled by Mr. Harold Leighton; capital fun came from Messrs. E. Skinner and J. Eric David as the political deputation; Mr. Ernest A. Strugnell showed exceptional abilities as an amateur in the part of Worthington; and Miss Helinor Harding pleased with her Nora James.

A municipal school of dramatic training is the latest innovation planned in Düsseldorf, the art-loving city on the Rhine. The college is to be an enlargement of the present Training Academy of the Dumont-Lindemann Theatre, and is to receive a subsidy from the city of £2,000 and a further annual municipal grant of £2,500 for a period of three years, if the wealthy art patrons who have hitherto supported the above-named theatre will continue their generous aid.

LIVERPOOL REPERTORY THEATRE

There was a crowded meeting of shareholders and supporters of the Liverpool Repertory Theatre, Ltd., on Wednesday last, when the financial position of the project and its future were discussed. Mr. J. J. Shute, jun., chairman of the company, presided.

The annual report stated a loss on the second year's working of the company amounting to £856 14s. 5d., which, after writing off a proportion of the preliminary flotation expenses of £385, together with the loss of £616 12s. 5d. brought forward from last year, leaves a net debit balance to be carried forward of £1,858 6s. 10d.

According to the balance-sheet, which was brought up to June last, the purchase price of freehold and leasehold properties and all other effects of "The Star Theatre" was £28,000, and the mortgage on same £20,000. The nominal capital of 23,000 shares of £1 each, was £23,000, and the issued capital £17,029, less 501 shares forfeited.

The report and balance-sheet were passed.

The chairman, in the course of a few remarks, said that the amount of money required to place the theatre in the same position it was in eighteen months ago was a shade under £2,000. Would it be possible to get forty people in the whole of that gigantic and wealthy city to put £50 each to wipe off the balance which was wanted? He and his colleagues would guarantee three. A discussion ensued, and one shareholder advocated cheaper seats. Another argued in favour of changing the name of the theatre.

A vote showed that the majority of the shareholders favoured retaining the present name. It was decided that the question of reducing the prices should be left to the discretion of the management.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The students' orchestral concert took place at Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 20, the large hall being filled with an enthusiastic and appreciative audience. The conductor, Mr. Wilhelm Sachse, secured a fine rendering of the "Anacreon" overture (Cherubini), and the students were well under control. Mr. Edward S. Mitchell played the piano part in Concerto in E minor (MS.), by Edric Greiffenhagen (student). The work is in one movement, allegro, and decidedly modern in construction. It was well received, and both pianist and composer were called at the conclusion. Miss Isobel Radford was set down for "Divinités du Styx." She possesses a good voice and some dramatic feeling. Miss Caroline B. Rawlins played the Romance (violin) in A minor, op. 42 (Max Bruch). This work is deservedly a favourite, and Miss Rawlins played with due appreciation of its elegance and nobility of style. "Träume" (Wagner) was well sung by Miss Margaret Gibson, although she was somewhat nervous at first. The first movement from Symphony in B flat, No. 1, op. 38 (Schumann), originally entitled "Spring," and composed during the happiest time of the composer's life, was well performed by the orchestra. Mr. Donald Priestley was heard in the organ solo, Toccata and Fugue in D minor (Bach). "Pro peccatis" (Rossini) suited well the fine voice of Mr. George A. Shrive, who made a good impression. Hazel Giles played the Concerto (violin) in E flat, allegro moderato (Mozart), with considerable intelligence. Among the other students who showed promise were Miss Kathleen E. M. Day and Miss Clarice Mills, who were set down for the vocal duet, "Recordare," from Verdi's "Requiem"; and Miss Doris Drewery, in Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto in C major, No. 1, op. 15, one movement, "Allegro con brio." The concert concluded with the march, "Militaire Française," from Suite Algérienne, op. 60 (Saint-Saëns).

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Christmas is here again with its message of goodwill. For many members of the theatrical profession it means added activity rather than festivity, but in a calling in which there is too much "resting" that is a matter for rejoicing, and not regret. Accordingly to all our readers we give the old wish, "A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year."

To the actors over the seas these lines will come a little belated—to Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, who is adding to social and artistic successes in America; to Mr. Cyril Maude, who, after winnings laurels in Canada, is gaining honours in the United States; and to Mr. F. R. Benson, who, with his Stratford Players, is bearing the banner of the Bard of Avon with distinction across the American continent. To these and to their comrades in art we wish a prosperous New Year.

Sir Herbert Tree was surrounded by so many birthday gifts on Wednesday that he might well have passed for a "Christmas Tree." Congratulatory messages arrived from all parts of the kingdom, all breathing respect and affectionate regard for the leader of the English stage.

Sir Herbert is now making preparations for the revival of "The Darling of the Gods," which will come on in the New Year, after the run of "Joseph and His Brethren." For his leading lady in "The Darling of the Gods" Sir Herbert has engaged Miss Marie Löhr.

A message from across the Atlantic comes with the compliments of Mr. Percy Burton, general manager for Sir J. Forbes-Robertson, who sends us the "very best Xmas and New Year greetings." Mr. Burton's many friends will join us in heartily reciprocating the sentiments so cordially expressed.

Seasonable greetings also come from the veteran theatrical journalist, Mr. Stephen Fiske, who sends a card from New York bearing the inscription: "I wish you sunshine and happiness through the coming year."

The sad case of Topsy Sinden, the delightful actress and dancer, was referred to in these columns on Dec. 3. There is a general feeling among both professions that her distressing case is worthy of the warmest support. We are opening a fund on her behalf in our columns, and shall announce the first list of subscriptions next week. Amongst those who are giving the project their financial help as Miss Gladys Cooper, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Louis Meyer, Mr. Jimmy Glover, Miss Marie Tempest, and the directors of the Empire.

Mr. Granville Barker's appeal at the conclusion of the performance of "The Silver Box" at the St. James's on Wednesday for assistance in establishing a permanent repertory theatre has been widely discussed. He is looking for a thousand individuals willing to subscribe £25 a year for three years. Within 48 hours of making his appeal Mr. Granville Barker had received a number of handsome cheques, and every day brings in a further list of subscribers.

Mr. Granville Barker and Miss Lillah McCarthy will devote the first week of their season at the Savoy Theatre to performances of "The Doctor's Dilemma," "The Silver Box," "Le Mariage Forcé" and "Nan," "The Wild Ducks," and "The Witch." The season opens on Monday next.

Mr. H. B. Irving gave the final performance of "The Grand Seigneur" at the Savoy on Saturday. Referring to his plans for the future, at the close of Mr. Granville Barker's brief season, Mr. Irving expressed the hope that foremost in his productions would be Shakespeare's "Richard III."

The matinée of "David Garrick," given by Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, at the New Theatre, on Tuesday last, in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, realised the sum of £403.

The committee of the Actors' Orphanage Fund report that they have received a cheque for £45 as a result of the Christmas tree performance given at the Court Theatre on the evening of November 18. The committee are extremely indebted to Mr. E. Norman Cotton, of Botley, Chesham, Bucks, the promoter of the performance, and all those ladies and gentlemen who were associated with him.

Miss Gladys Cooper and Miss Neilson-Terry graced the scene at the opening of the Christmas in Fairyland Fête organised by Princess Alexander of Teck in aid of the Scholarship Fund of the Imperial Service College, Windsor, last week. The opening ceremony was performed by Queen Amélie of Portugal.

The oldest and the newest theatres are represented on the land which Mr. Mallaby-Deeley, M.P., has just purchased from the Duke of Bedford. They are Drury Lane and Covent Garden and the Aldwych and the Strand Theatres. Mr. Mallaby-Deeley is Unionist M.P. for the Harrow Division of Middlesex.

The infant daughter of Lord and Lady Victor Paget (formerly Miss Olive May, the Gaiety actress) was christened on Sunday morning at All Saints Church, Norfolk-square, Paddington. Only about half a dozen people attended the ceremony. The baby was given the names of Peggy Esther Pauline Paget. The godfather was the Marquis of Anglesey, and the godmother Mrs. Almeric Paget.

The Managers' Club will be closed on Christmas Day, but will be open on Boxing Day from 11 a.m. till 12 noon to enable the members to get their letters. The next meeting of the committees of the Managers' Club and of the Touring Managers' Association will be on Friday, Jan. 2.

The situation of the site which has been acquired by the committee of the Shakespeare National Memorial Theatre has now been revealed. It is in Gower-street, close to the British Museum, with Keppel-street and Malet-street on two sides. The site has a frontage of 281ft. and a depth of 181ft., and is over an acre in area. The purchase price was £60,000. The estimate for the building and endowment of an adequate National Theatre is £150,000, and the committee ask for subscriptions to raise a fund of £250,000.

The site is not actually within the bounds of Theatreland, but the building will be in good company, with the British Museum opposite and the London University in close proximity. Sir Herbert Tree considers the locality an excellent one. "It is really in a most interesting and accessible district," he said, "and I cannot but take interest in the fact that it is close to the Academy of Dramatic Art, which has already proved a success. May not that in itself be a good omen?"

Sir George Alexander will make his welcome reappearance at the St. James's Theatre on New Year's Day as the principal figure of the new play, "The Attack," adapted from the French of Henry Bernstein by George Egerton. He will be supported by Mr. E. Holman Clark, Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. Philip Desborough, Mr. Reginald Malcolm, Mr. J. Adeane Barlow, Miss Gladys Storey, and Miss Martha Hedman.

During the visit of the F. R. Benson Shakespearean Company (South) to Stirling last week, the teachers in various schools took their classes to the matinée performance of "Hamlet." This is an example which may be commended to school authorities elsewhere, for the fine performance must have been a valuable education.

Mr. Kenelm Foss has now decided to call the new first piece which is taking the place of "The Three Wayfarers," at the Little Theatre, on Thursday, "The Impulse of a Night," instead of "Impulse," as originally intended, owing to the fact that Mr. W. H. Kendal has a prior claim to the title. "The Impulse of a Night" is by David Ellis and Mrs. George Norman.

"Within the Law" will celebrate its 250th performance to-day, when two performances will be given. The Haymarket will be closed only on Christmas Day, and special holiday matinées will be given.

The Cat at the Coronet Theatre will this year be a feminist. Miss Pauline Prim, to whom belongs the distinction of being the first woman actress to impersonate an animal upon the stage, is the wife of Mr. Edward Sillward, the famous animal actor.

"Joseph and His Brethren" and "Sealed Orders" are on the way to Australia, to open in Melbourne about the middle of February, under the management of J. C. Williamson, Ltd. Miss Ethel Warwick is going out to play Zuleika, and the company also comprises Mr. Edward O'Neill, Mr. Malcolm Tearle, Mr. Hodgson Taylor, Mr. Frank Harvey, Miss Dorothy Whitaker, Miss Eva Moss, Miss Nancy Girling, and Mr. Cecil King. The last-mentioned will produce the two plays.

Another overseas enterprise of Messrs. J. C. Williamson, Ltd., is that of a Gilbert and Sullivan company, which will open at His Majesty's Theatre, Johannesburg, on Boxing Day, in "The Mikado." Mr. Derek Hudson will play the title-rôle, and will be supported by Mr. Edward McKeown, Mr. Chas. R. Walenn, Mr. Albert Kavanagh, Mr. G. Villiers Arnold, Miss Ruth Lincoln, Miss Pearl Ladd, Miss Marna Trent, and Miss Ethel Morrison. The company is under the stage direction of Mr. Richard Weathersby, Mr. Harry Burton acting as musical director.

Miss Lena Ashwell was honorary adjudicator in the elocutionary scholarships at the Shakespeare Schools, Red Lion-square, on Saturday. In announcing her awards, Miss Ashwell said she had to decide not which of the recitations had been best delivered, but which of the performers was most likely to benefit by tuition. She awarded one scholarship to Miss Dorothy S. Vernon, who had recited Volumnia's appeal to Coriolanus, and the other to Mr. George Gerrard, who declaimed the Quarrel scene in "Julius Cæsar."

"Pericles," which has not been performed in London for many years, will be given as a dramatic reading by the British Empire Shakespeare Society, with a full professional cast (under the direction of Mr. Acton Bond), on Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 13, in the Botanical Theatre of the University College.

Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss N. de Silva, and company sail from Liverpool for Canada on the Empress of Ireland on Saturday, the company leaving Euston by special train at 9.30 a.m. The tour opens at Halifax on Jan. 8. Vancouver, the furthest westerly point of the journey, will be reached on March 30. Return visits will be paid to a few of the largest towns on the homeward route, and Mr. Harvey may be expected back in England some time in May. It is only recently that facilities for theatrical touring in the Dominion have been extended to their present enormous scope, and Mr. Harvey's enterprise will mark the first occasion on which an important company from England has undertaken a transatlantic tour which will be carried out entirely on British soil.

Miss Odette Goimbault was engaged by Mr. Granville Barker for Peaseblossom in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and by Mrs. Percy Dearmer and Miss Netta Syrett to play principal parts in their children's theatre at the Court Theatre. But as "The Dream" and "Children's Theatre" will now be on at the same time, she will only appear in "The Dream."

Miss Cécile Barclay and Mr. Rupert Lister will, by arrangement with Sir George Alexander, begin a third tour of "The Turning Point" early in January. In addition to "The Turning Point," Miss Barclay and Mr. Lister will play six weeks in repertory at Hull, Grimsby, and Swansea, the long tour finishing at the end of June.

We are asked to announce the engagement of Miss Gwen Hawkins to Mr. Christian Morrow, of Beaconsfield Hall, Co. Durham. Miss Hawkins is the second daughter of the late Mr. Charles Hawkins, for many years private secretary to the late D'Oyly Carte. Mr. Morrow leaves England this week on a short tour of the West Indies with the Glossop-Harris Shakespearean Company.

The well-known American actor, E. M. Holland, died recently in Cleveland, Ohio. He was born in New York in 1848, and belonged to the fourth generation of a family of famous actors. His father was born in England, and his grandfather acted at Drury Lane Theatre with Elliston. His great-grandfather, Charles Holland, was a friend and fellow-actor of David Garrick. Among the best-remembered characterisations of the late E. M. Holland were Captain Redwood in "Jim, the Penman," and Captain Bedford in "Raffles," but he distinguished himself in numerous rôles. He was buried from the "Little Church Around the Corner," as the Church of the Transfiguration is known. Mr. Holland is survived by his widow, formerly Miss Emily Seward, who retired from the stage many years ago, and also by a daughter and a son.

We are informed of the death of the well-known actor, Mr. Albert James, who passed away on Monday at the age of 61. Mr. James was the Petitpierre in the original London production of "Paul Jones" at the Prince of Wales's in 1889, and subsequently went on tour in America with Miss Alice Huntingdon, who played the principal part. Returning to England, Mr. James took up the Geo. Grossmith parts in Gilbert and Sullivan opera on tour. Later he was stage manager for the Ben Greet company in the provinces, and went to South Africa with that gentleman's tour of Gilbert and Sullivan opera. In due course he joined Mr. Geo. Edwardes's staff and toured as stage manager for "The Country Girl," at one time playing the part of Barry. He managed the revival of Gilbert and Sullivan opera at the Savoy, remaining there until three years ago, when failing health compelled him to give up the appointment. Mr. James leaves a widow and two sons.

Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore paid a flying visit to Glasgow on Friday, appearing at the Theatre Royal, in "David Garrick." There was a good house, and Sir Charles was warmly welcomed.

A meeting of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala Committee was held in the Bee Hotel on Sunday, Mr. W. W. Kelly presiding. Since the start of the movement the sum of £18,356 has been raised for charities, and it was hoped that the gala next year would bring the amount up to £20,000. Mr. Kelly was re-elected chairman; Messrs. W. A. Crouch and Harry Arnold, vice-chairmen; Mr. G. Dudley West, hon. sec.; and Mr. Tom Wood, hon. treasurer.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's Christmas attraction at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, will be "Peter Pan," which opens on Boxing Day afternoon, and remains until Saturday, Jan. 3. Five matinées will be given during that period.

The great Drury Lane success, "Sealed Orders," has been secured for the provinces by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison, the tour starting on August Bank Holiday. An exact replica of all the Drury Lane scenery, mechanical and lighting effects will be given, including the wonderful battleship and flying machine scenes. The authors, Messrs. Cecil Raleigh and Henry Hamilton, are personally producing.

Mr. Esme Percy and Miss K. Graeme terminated their autumn tour at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, on Saturday. Among the pieces produced during the tour were "The Awakening Woman," "The Orangeman," and "The River," a translation from the German, and the revivals have included "Man and Superman," John Galsworthy's "Joy," and "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith." So successful has been the tour, that they have been offered return dates at Manchester, Glasgow, and Liverpool. The spring tour commences at Brighton on Feb. 2, 1914.

The Christmas programme at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, begins to-day with "The School for Scandal." For the matinées Mr. Algernon Greig brings his company with "Fifinella" to the Gaiety, opening Boxing Day. Mr. Basil Dean will produce it.

Mr. Bulmer is producing, on Monday, at the Junction Theatre, Manchester, "For Auld Lang Syne." Mr. Bulmer claims that this play tells a story of heart-throbbing interest, without a murder, pistol shot, or knife fight. An excellent company has been engaged, and special scenery and printing are provided.

London has its Little Theatre and so has New York and Philadelphia, but Boston has its Toy Theatre. It was opened in 1911, and during its first two seasons has produced thirty-four plays. A three-act comedy, called "The Trial Marriage," will shortly be produced there.

Owing to indisposition Miss Mabel Russell was unable to appear at the Haymarket on Wednesday. The part of Agnes Lynch in "Within the Law" was played at the two performances by Miss Molly Terraine, who was highly congratulated by the management.

Miss Ruth Varnia is engaged as principal dancer in Mr. Graham Falcon's "Dick Whittington" panto.

A season of Scotch plays will be opened by Mr. Graham Moffat at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday. The season will last three weeks, the first attractions being "A Scrape o' the Pen" and "Till the Bells Ring."

The wedding of Mr. Vyvyan B. Holland, the younger son of Oscar Wilde, and Miss Violet Craigie, is announced to take place on Jan. 7 at St. Mary's, Cadogan-square. The young couple met at a dinner party at Sir Herbert Tree's house at the end of July last, and it was a case of mutual love at first sight. Both bride and bridegroom belong to the Catholic faith. Miss Craigie is the daughter of the late Lieutenant Edmund Warren Craigie, and is not unknown to the stage. She made her first appearance with Sir Herbert Tree in the revival of "The Dancing Girl," and afterwards was with Miss Gertrude Elliott's company in "The Dawn of To-morrow."

A "Charley's Aunt" Club has been formed, composed exclusively of actors and actresses who have appeared in the cast since the original performance at the old Globe, and a dinner of the club was held at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday evening. About 150 sat down, with Mr. Brandon Thomas in the chair, "The Health of the Author" being proposed by Mr. Stanley Cooke, the immediate successor to the late W. S. Penley as the immortal "Babs." There were other aunts present in the persons of Charles Windermere, Hugh Wakefield, Langdon Bruce, and Percy Crawford. Mr. Brandon Thomas, who presided, brought his wife and daughter Amy. Having made a touching reference to Mr. W. S. Penley, he said: "The good, gentle, little actor has gone where Christmas is eternal; but his bright smile haunts all of us still."

Messrs Chudleigh and Bernhardt have engaged many of the children from Mr. Clive Currie's Young Players to support little Cora Goffin as Alice in Wonderland at the Comedy. Among these are Tessie Parke (Cheshire Cat), Audrey Trevelyan (Dormouse), Madge Moon (Herald), Violet Faucheux (Oyster), and Misses Amber Rex, Raven Wing, Norah Howard, Sylvia and Sadie Cecil, &c.

Messrs. Clement Blake and Day, the cinema agents, of 40, Chancery-lane, inform us that the lease of the Theatre Royal, Chorley, has just been transferred through their agency on behalf of Messrs. Relph and Pedley, to Mr. William Roberts, of Birmingham.

The present Johannesburg Palladium Dramatic Company, with Mr. Maurice Hoffman in charge, has been playing to enormous business right through its season, and will make room for the next company after having played nine weeks at the Palladium. The company will then play a tour of the African Theatres Trust Provincial Theatres.

The children's season at the Court Theatre opens on Monday next. The plays presented will be "The Fairy Doll," "The Strange Boy," and "The Enchanted Garden," by Miss Netta Syrett, for the first half of the week, and "The Cock-yolly Bird" for the remainder.

Mr. Lawrence Brough writes from Adelaide: "An old copy of 'The Era' has just reached me, and I find an advertisement coupling me with the 'E. Oswald Brookes Agency,' of Montreal. I wrote you from Ottawa in October last giving full particulars of the severance of myself and that syndicate, and requesting the withdrawal of all matter connecting me or the company with these people."

Mr. B. A. Meyer has resigned his position as general-manager to Mr. Alan Campbell.

["The Era" has a larger circulation than that of any other theatrical or variety journal published in the United Kingdom.]

"THE FORTUNE HUNTER."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Winchell Smith, Produced at the Queen's Theatre on Wednesday, Dec. 17.

Nathaniel Duncan ..... Mr. Hale Hamilton
Henry Kellogg ..... Mr. William Boyd Davis
George Burnham ..... Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke
James Long ..... Mr. Bryan G. Powley
Lawrence Miller ..... Mr. Lawrence Phillips
Willie Bartlett ..... Mr. Norman Yates
Robbins ..... Mr. Robert Ayrton
Newsboy ..... Mr. John A. Weymouth
Sam Graham ..... Mr. Forrest Robinson
Mr. Lockwood ..... Mr. George Traill
Roland Barnett ..... Mr. Henry Wenman
Tracey Tanner ..... Mr. C. Denier Warren
Pete Willing ..... Mr. Fred Forrest
Charles Sperry ..... Mr. Arthur Brandon
Watty ..... Mr. E. W. Royce
Herman ..... Mr. George Spellvin
Betty Graham ..... Miss Myrtle Tannehill
Josie Lockwood ..... Miss Clara Mackin
Angie Tucker ..... Miss Clara Cooper

Those to whom the ingenious simplicity and unsophisticated charm of such plays as "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" and "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" made their appeal, will also find entertainment and attraction in "The Fortune Hunter," by Mr. Winchell Smith, the author of "Brewster's Millions," which was produced at the Queen's Theatre last Wednesday evening. In this instance, as in the case of "Mrs. Wiggs," the excellent cast can claim inclusion of an artist of exceptional talent and fascinating personality. What Mrs. Madge Carr Cook was to the "Cabbage Patch," Mr. Hale Hamilton is to "The Fortune Hunter." Ever since Mr. Hamilton took the hearts of London playgoers by storm in "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," he has kept firm hold on our affections and our admiration, and his portrayal of Nathaniel Duncan in the present play strengthens both our friendship and esteem.

It would be easy to rail at the almost absurd obviousness of Mr. Winchell Smith's plot, to scoff at some of his ancient devices for raising a laugh, or to disclose the impossibility of the financial position as stated by the author. We prefer to be more lenient and to content ourselves with a relation of the simple, pleasant story.

Nathaniel Duncan is an all-round failure. He has a heart of gold and a head of putty. Fortunately, he also possesses a charming personality, which has greatly endeared Nat to his friend and patron, Henry Kellogg, who is as successful in business at Nat is the reverse. Having been "fired" from the last position which Henry has obtained for him, and declining to live on his friend's bounty any longer, poor Nat finds himself "down and out," and is therefore ready to listen to any proposition, providing it is "on the straight," for making money. Henry, who is a born schemer, tells Nat that he knows of a "sure thing," which will land Nat in "easy street" in twelve months, if he carries out the idea properly. Nat is to leave New York, where the competition is too great for him, retire to some small village, dress and behave beautifully, and allow the richest girl in the place to fall in love with and propose to him.

After some slight demur Nat agrees, and in the second act we find him installed in Radville, a God-forsaken hole, where, as he says, he feels at first "as gay and sociable as a bell-pull in the ocean." Nat is also assuming all the virtues; he has forsworn drinking, smoking, swearing, and gambling, goes regularly to church, and preserves an attitude of lofty detachment towards the girls, with the result that they are all tripping over one another in their desire to make his acquaintance. Still following the rules laid down by Henry, Nat offers his services to a charming old chemist, who dreams his days away over inventions which have never brought him in a penny. The shop, the chemist, and his pretty drudge of a daughter, were in a very bad way, until Nat's appearance; but once he takes them in hand he works veritable miracles. In six months the dirty, empty, customless shop, is transformed into an establishment which would not disgrace New York; and the profits wrung from the odd two thousand inhabitants of Radville have in the time been large enough to build the old chemist a beautiful house, and to transform his daughter, Betty, into a lovely, well educated, charmingly-dressed young woman. Nat, the wonder-worker, is adored by all, particularly by the rich heiress, Josie Lockwood, who takes no pains to conceal her admiration. Nat, however, is inclined to "jib" at the last clause in his agreement; he doesn't want silly, simpering Josie; but Henry, the schemer, arriving in the nick of time, brings him reluctantly up to the scratch; and, to his own and Betty's distress, Nat finds himself Josie's betrothed. In the end, of course, everything comes all right. Josie, believing a false accusation against him, breaks off her engagement, and Nat, in a downpour of real rain, proposes to, and is accepted by, Betty, whose father has also become a rich man through a clever invention, which Nat has helped him bring to success.

We have already alluded to the excellent acting of Mr. Hale Hamilton as Nat Duncan. He manages to combine a certain phlegmatic acceptance of the hard knocks of fortune with a glorious temperamental optimism which is attractive to a very high degree. Mr. Hamilton's smile, though of an entirely different brand, is in its way as famous as Charles Hawtrey's; one finds one's self waiting for the illumination of that smile, and basking in it when it breaks through the clouds. To Mr. Forrest Robinson, whose return to our shores we welcome warmly, we are also indebted for a delightful impersonation of a sweet-natured, unbusinesslike, lovable old man, a real Dickens character. Mr. William Boyd Davis is pleasantly breezy and natural as Henry the schemer; Miss Myrtle Tannehill is very sweet and appealing as Betty, the chemist's daughter, though we should prefer to see her display a little more spirit when she rebels against her father's inefficiency; Miss Clara Mackin plays very cleverly indeed as the importunate Josie; and Miss Clara Cooper gets some excellent effects in a diminutive way as Angie, Josie's friend. Mr. George Traill wins hearty laughter as a man with an eye-twitch, which gives rise to some queer complications; Mr. Henry Wenman is splendid as a terrific bounder in awful clothes; Mr. C. Denier Warren, a young actor of decided promise, is exceedingly sprightly as a youthful lover; and Mr. Fred Forrest plays with much humour as a drunken henpecked sheriff, though he is rather inclined to overdo the drunkenness. Mr. G. Mayor-Cooke is firm and convincing as George Burnham; Mr. Arthur Brandon gives a capital little character-sketch of a commercial traveller; Mr. Bryan G. Powley is good as a friend of Henry Kellogg; and, as two other friends, Mr. Lawrence Phillips and Mr. Norman Yates also fill their parts with ability. Mr. E. W. Royce makes the most of quite a small part; Mr. Robert Ayrton is adequate as Robbins, and the same can be said of Mr. John A. Weymouth as a newsboy.

"IN AND OUT."

New Play, in Three Acts, Founded by George Paston on "Papillon dit Lyonnais le Juste," by Louis Bénière, Produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre at a matinée, on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

Silas Churchward ..... Mr. Edmund Gwenn
Mr. Ripley ..... Mr. J. Rudge Harding
Mr. Luttrell ..... Mr. A. E. Benedict
Horace Fleming ..... Mr. Vernon Steel
Sir Henry Wollaston ..... Mr. Athol Stewart
William Hubbard ..... Mr. Gordon Tomkins
Thomas Salter ..... Mr. Norman Page
Crampton ..... Mr. Horton Cooper
Mrs. Ripley ..... Miss Lottie Venne
Eve Ripley ..... Miss Mary Jerrold
Mabel Fleming ..... Miss Marjorie Day
Susan Dyer ..... Miss Sydney Fairbrother
Lady Wollaston ..... Miss Muriel Ashwynne
Mrs. Hubbard ..... Miss Annie Chippendale
Watson ..... Miss Margaret Omar

The familiar story of the poor man who suddenly comes into a fortune, and the trials and tribulations which wealth brings with it, forms the plot of this new play, which was successfully produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre yesterday afternoon. Silas Churchward is the poor man. He is a stonemason by trade, and by birth the natural son of the former owner of Teignton Towers. When the old man was killed in a motor accident, and no will could be found, the next-of-kin, Mr. and Mrs. Ripley, came into possession of the property, but they had enjoyed their unexpected good fortune only a short time when there appears upon the scene Silas Churchward, who declares that the old man made a will in which his name appears, and accordingly he wants his little bit of money. Moreover, he knows where the will was placed—at the back of a bookshelf—and actually finds it there. When the document, which is quite legal, comes to be read, Silas Churchward is found to be the heir to the estates, in spite of the lamentations of Mrs. Ripley, who declares that the will is a forgery.

In the second act Silas has discarded his working clothes; he is, however, anything but happy in his swagger suit and patent leather boots. The new life does not agree with the working man, and he sends for his sweetheart, Susan Dyer, who lived next door to his mother in his native town. Rendered desperate by his unhappy position, he suddenly resumes his working clothes, has the kitchen furniture brought into the drawing-room and dismisses all the servants. In the last act matters are straightened out. Silas satisfies the Ripleys by a liberal arrangement, and he himself decides to go to Canada with the faithful Susan Dyer as his wife.

Mr. Edmund Gwenn gave a delightfully natural embodiment of Silas Churchward, and scored in every scene. Mr. J. Rudge Harding presented a capital sketch of the former lawyer's clerk, Mr. Ripley; Mr. A. E. Benedict was good as the solicitor Mr. Luttrell; Miss Lottie Venne by her humorous treatment of the rôle of Mrs. Ripley was responsible for much of the merriment; and Miss Mary Jerrold played with much charm the part of Eve Ripley, whose sweetheart, Horace Fleming, was well represented by Mr. Vernon Steel. Miss Sydney Fairbrother's Susan Dyer was an exceedingly clever piece of acting; Miss Marjorie Day was successful as Mabel Fleming; Mr. Athol Stewart was an aristocratic Sir Henry Wollaston; and Miss Muriel Ashwynne a pleasing Lady Wollaston. Mr. Horton Cooper did well as the butler, Crampton, other minor characters being carefully played by Mr. Gordon Tomkins, Mr. Norman Page (who produced the play), and Miss Annie Chippendale.

PRESENTATION TO MR. CECIL KING.

A pleasant scene was enacted on the stage of His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, when Sir Herbert Tree called together well-known dramatists, actors, and actresses, to bid God-speed to Mr. Cecil King, who has held the position of stage-manager with Sir Herbert for thirteen years. Mr. King is going to Australia to produce "Joseph and His Brethren" and the Drury Lane drama, "Sealed Orders," for Mr. J. C. Williamson.

Sir Herbert spoke a few graceful words testifying to the affectionate regard and esteem in which Mr. King is held by all who know him, and to his own high appreciation of the manner in which he had for so long carried out the duties entrusted to him. A silver case, which Sir Herbert humorously described as "a thing of beauty and a toy for ever," contained a scroll bearing the names of nearly 200 of Mr. King's well-wishers, who begged him to accept a cheque for £200 and a handsome travelling case. To these gifts Sir Herbert himself added a gold cigarette case. Mr. King replied briefly but suitably, and his health was enthusiastically drunk by the company.

The wording on the scroll ran:—"On the occasion of your departure for Australia, the undersigned ask you to accept the accompanying gift as a symbol of their thanks and of their good wishes. Many of them have been helped by your advice, many have been encouraged by your praise, all have been the happier for your genial and courteous personality. (Then followed names of the subscribers.) Let these names remind you that whatever new friendships you make in the New World, the Old World holds a host of old friends, who think of you with affection, watch your career with sympathy, earnestly hope for your success, and will gladly welcome you home."

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"THE STORY OF THE ROSARY."

Romantic Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Howard, played for the first time in London at the Princes Theatre on Saturday, Dec. 20th.

Paul Romain .....Mr. Alfred Paumier
Philip Romain .....Mr. J. Graeme Campbell
Colonel Hildebrand .....Mr. John Nesbit
Lieutenant Peterkin .....Mr. George Desmond
Lieutenant Hillstein .....Mr. Hugh Selwyn
Trooper Smutz .....Mr. Arthur Terry
Karl Larose .....Mr. Walter Howard
Prince von Sabran .....Mr. E. W. Thomas
Winkelstein .....Mr. Philip Gordon
Father Theodore .....Mr. J. W. Evelyn
Wilhemina .....Miss May Dallas
The Mother Superior .....Miss Agnes Knights
Una Hillstein .....Miss Millicent Hallatt
Venetia von Sabran .....Miss Annie Saker

A warm and favourable reception was given to Mr. Walter Howard's play of "The Story of the Rosary," which was presented at the Princes Theatre on Saturday evening after a previous production at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Sept. 17.

Mr. Walter Howard's play is written round and suggested by Ethelbert Nevin's song, 'The Rosary."

The scene opens in the barracks of the Red Dragoons, who are on the eve of their departure to the front, war having been declared by their country on a neighbouring European state. Paul Romain and his cousin Philip are both in love with Princess Venetia von Sabran. Philip proposes to her, and is refused, but allows Paul to believe that he (Philip) will be eventually successful. The latter generously refuses to press his suit, and, before leaving, writes the Princess a short note wishing her and Philip every happiness. The Princess, irritated by Philip's falsehood, calls on Paul at his rooms to enlighten him. We learn that, owing to a bank smash, Paul is practically a beggar while Philip, who knew of the approaching financial crisis, carefully withdrew his own money without telling Paul of the approaching danger. Paul tells the Princess of his love for her. The Prince von Sabran, her father, refuses to entertain Paul's proposal, ostensibly on the ground of his insolvency, but really because the Prince is a gambler, and has been bought body and soul with Philip's money.

Paul, in desperation, asks the Princess Venetia to marry him immediately before he leaves for the scene of war. He obtains two hours' leave of absence, and goes with Venetia to the Church of the Convent, where a certain Father Theodore and the Mother Superior are saying Mass. Paul asks the Father to marry them at once, and begs the Mother Superior to take care of his wife until the war is over. An affectionate parting follows, the princess placing round her husband's neck her rosary, and entreating him to pray for her every night and say over the words of the song.

The action is then transported to the theatre of war, where the Red Dragoons are "in action." They are anxiously awaiting Paul's return, his two hours' leave is up, and he stands in danger of being court-martialled as a deserter if he does not make an appearance. Suddenly a man is seen coming through the enemy's lines. It is Paul returning. When he is seen to fall, Karl Larose, Paul's chum, dashes out and brings his friend in safely. Although Paul explains that his horse failed him, and that he had to walk on foot nearly all the way, Colonel Hildebrand feels bound to place him under arrest, and Paul sees with anguish his company go into action without him. Colonel Hildebrand comes in seriously wounded, and with deep emotion hands over the command to Paul, very much to Philip's discomfiture.

The next scene is the priest's garden, where the Princess is awaiting her husband's return. Paul was seen to fall from his horse while at the head of his regiment and was not found among the wounded. The shock, for the time being, turns the brain of the Princess, and Philip Romaine and the Prince come for her, to take her home. They succeed in inducing her to leave by pretending that her husband is awaiting her.

In the library of Prince Sabran's house we see Philip forcing his attentions on the unhappy Princess, who, rather than be taken abroad in order to forget her husband and further Philip's suit, decides to return to the convent as a novice, and finally decides to take the veil.

The next scene, one of the most picturesque in the play, is the mess-room of the Red Dragoons, where a regimental dinner is in progress. The toast of absent friends is proposed, and particularly the health of Paul, but Philip Romain refuses to drink the toast to his cousin. This enrages Karl Larose, and he is on the point of challenging Philip when Paul himself makes a dramatic entry in an exhausted condition, ragged, and unkempt. Amid enthusiasm and excitement he tells how he was taken prisoner, of his trying time in hospital and his eventual transference to the mines, and of his escape and hard tramp across country. Philip then repeats his story of his belief in Paul's former desertion, and goads him on to fight. Paul disarms his cousin, and spares his life in spite of his brother officers' cry of "Kill him!" and then goes to the Priest and asks to see his wife. The climax is a very beautiful and artistically-treated reunion of the two lovers, to the accompaniment of the air of the immortal "Rosary."

The acting was excellent throughout, and its sincerity lent conviction to a dramatic and romantic story. Paul Romain, a thorough hero and good fellow, manly, sincere, and simple, had a thoroughly competent representative in Mr. Alfred Paumier. Early in the piece he won the good opinion of the house, and he was liberally applauded at the close. Miss Annie Saker brought all her art to bear upon her embodiment of the character of Princess Venetia von Sabran. She possesses power and breadth of expression to a high degree, and a style of beauty that made her performance a vivid and living creation. The Karl Larose of Mr. Walter Howard was a deeply sincere and convincing piece of work, sharp in every detail, and imbued with a telling personality. Mr. J. Graeme Campbell was sufficiently morose and objectionable as the villain of the piece, Philip Romain, and was carefully self-restrained throughout. Mr. John Nesbit endowed Colonel Hildebrand with a cheery optimism and kindness of heart that placed the character on very good terms with the audience. The part of the Prince von Sabran was admirably played by Mr. E. W. Thomas, who suggested by skilful methods the natural weakness of the man with his interests at war with his sympathies as a father. Mr. George Desmond had a well-deserved reception as Lieutenant Peterkin, and succeeded in creating much fun and laughter without bringing the military vocation into contempt. Mr. Philip Gordon was responsible for one of the best pieces of character-acting in the cast. His sketch of Uncle Winkelstein was excellent, and he was the grumpy old rich bachelor to the life. The rôle of good old Father Theodore was treated in just the right vein by Mr. J. W. Evelyn, whose simplicity and convincing earnestness won all hearts. Miss May Dallas was pretty and lively as the Colonel's daughter Wilhemina; and Miss Agnes Knights made a picturesque and effective Mother Superior. Mr. Hugh Selwyn had little to do as Lieutenant Hillstein, but was entirely adequate; Miss Millicent Hallatt was good as Una Hillstein; and Mr. Arthur Terry supplied a humorous sketch of Trooper Smutz. After many curtains and continued applause, Mr. Howard came forward and thanked the audience on his part and on the part of the company for their very kind reception of the play.

MATHESON LANG'S THANKS.

The pronounced success which Mr. Matheson Lang has won by his interpretation of the complex character of "Mr. Wu" in the attractive play bearing this title at the Strand Theatre, has been appreciatively and widely voiced, both in the Press and by the Playgoing public; and it is moreover, recognised that this achievement is not only the

MR. MATHESON LANG.

outcome of the artistic delineation of a part beset with many pitfalls for a less accomplished actor, but is likewise strongly leavened with the personal element.

It therefore afforded an "Era" representative much satisfaction to visit the popular actor in his dressing-room one evening last week. "Mr. Wu" was discovered in a transition stage. From his head to his waist he was pure Chinese, and the remaining portion of his attire was distinctly English—as likewise was his cheery greeting.

"May I take advantage of your agreeable visit, please, to ask you to express in the columns of 'The Era' my warm appreciation of the most cordial welcome which my friends, both the Press and public, have given me upon my appearance amongst them again after my long travels. My tour in South Africa (which I visited twice), and the Furthest East (my company even played in the Phillippine Islands) lasted about two years, and whilst my wife and I found it very fascinating to visit new countries and make new friends, one is, perhaps, somewhat apprehensive that one may be forgotten by those in the Old Country. It is more than delightful, therefore, to find that this little apprehension has proved so entirely groundless—as it also is somewhat embarrassing to experience the overwhelming reception so generously accorded my efforts in this play. Having spent, too, a Christmas in Equatorial latitudes, and though quite a joyful occasion, Miss Hutin Britton, and I feel particularly glad at the idea of being amongst our friends in England once again, and in our own home, for the present Christmas and New Year period."

"That feeling I can quite understand. Now, concerning your travels. You have doubtless found your visit to China very helpful with respect to both your part, and the production of, 'Mr. Wu'?"

"Particularly so. In connection with the production, I have, I believe, been enabled to impart to it the correct atmosphere; and as to my interpretation of the principal character, well——" and the actor's Oriental obeisance was modestly eloquent.

"These things being so, may I add how pleased I was when Mr. Louis Meyer invited me to join interests with him in producing this play, and how gratifying to all concerned the remarkable success it has achieved is; also, that I account myself fortunate in having Miss Lilian Braithwaite as leading lady, and the co-operation of so fine a cast throughout."

"ROBINA IN SEARCH OF A HUSBAND."

An Absurd Play in Four Acts, by Jerome K. Jerome, played for the first time in London at the Vaudeville Theatre on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

"The Doctor" .....Mr. Ernest G. Cove
Mrs. Mulberry .....Miss Jeannie Thomas
Dolove .....Mr. F. J. Rorke
Kate Gamlett .....Miss Winifred Beech
Robina Penniciucque .....Miss Rowena Jerome
Lord Rathbone .....Mr. Harold Chapin
A Postboy .....Mr. F. St. Aubyn
Horace Greenleaf .....Mr. Richard Evans
The Hon. Susan Raffleton
Miss Lillian Ogilvy Williams
Amos Jordan .....Mr. Edmond Breon
Inspector Flanelly-Jones..Mr. W. O. Billington
Jollyboy .....Mr. Chris Simpson

The present programme at the Vaudeville Theatre is something of a curiosity. There is Mr. Bernard Shaw in his most agreeable and irresponsible mood, with a sketch without a moral lesson, but with a great deal of pure fun in it; and there is Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, the author of didactic dramas of domestic life, with an "absurd" play, as he calls it, which is simply a cleverly-contrived old-fashioned farce in four acts, acted by a promising provincial company, headed by the author's own daughter. The fact that "Robina in Search of a Husband" supersedes a strong, intense, and heart-harrowing drama of low life suggests that Mr. Norman McKinnel and Frederick Whelen are inclined to be eclectic in their "search for a success."

There is little to do in the way of criticism of Mr. Jerome's play but to tell the story. For the story is the play. "Robina in Search of a Husband" is "chock" full of plot; and the author has managed to keep things moving briskly up to the fall of the curtain on his fourth act. The first opens at "The Dovecot," a picturesque country inn, to which a certain Kate Gamlett, the charming daughter of a hotel-keeper, is coming to take up the position of chambermaid. Kate has a past—painful but not discreditable to her. She has been married by a young man named Raffleton, who has mysteriously disappeared after the ceremony, and has not looked her up since. He is a knockabout aristocrat, a sailor and wanderer, but when he becomes Lord Rathbone, he starts a search for Kate, and, with the object of meeting her, comes down to the Dovecot. Another visitor to the inn is Robina Penniciucque, an American heiress, and an old friend of Kate's, with whom Lord Rathbone, who is extremely susceptible, has started a flirtation when they met, by accident, in travelling. Robina, wishing to see if Rathbone "loves her for herself alone," prevails upon Kate to exchange identities with her, and bribes the bewildered inn-keeper to assist the deception. Robina, by the by, has what Mr. Weller would have called a "priory 'tachment" to a romantic young man, who has disappeared after certain love-passages.

When Rathbone turns up he finds, as he thinks, his lawful wife serving as the chambermaid, and decides to stick to her, though as the real Kate was a ward in Chancery the marriage might possibly be annulled. Why he does not detect the imposture, by failing to recognise a likeness, is not exactly explained. It is strange that he has so far forgotten Kate's appearance that he accepts Robina for the person she pretends to be. But his inclinations turn to the real Kate, who is staying on as a visitor at the hotel. There is some amusing business when Robina, in her character of chambermaid, has to wait on Kate and Rathbone and watch their approaches to each other. When she is in tears of disgust at Rathbone's preference, to her enters the young man of her Love's young dream, a solicitor named Horace Greenleaf, who had flown from her side as soon as he heard she was a rich heiress, but who returns to his allegiance now that he believes she is a servant.

The action might here be expected to flag, but the inexhaustible fertility of Mr. Jerome's invention introduces at this juncture an American named Amos Jordan, who claims Kate—who, please to remember, is still impersonated by Robina—as his long lost sweetheart.

Amos Jordan and the Hon. Susan Raffleton, who wants to get her brother's marriage to an inn-keeper's daughter annulled, suspect some deception, and cause both the real and the pretended Kate to be arrested on the charge of murdering Miss Penniciuque. They are locked up in a store-room with a comic country policeman, who goes to sleep, so that Rathbone and Horace are able to release the prisoners and entertain them at a frolicsome repast. Lady Susan pairs off with the American, a telegram comes telling the police to set free the "accused," Rathbone resumes possession of his lawful wife, the exchange of identity is confessed, and Robina's search for a husband ends with her happening on her old flame, and his consent to undertake the burden of sharing her fortune.

Miss Rowena Jerome acted Robina with great spirit and vivacity, depicting all the different moods of the impulsive maiden with vivid expression, flirting, weeping, and, metaphorically, scratching, with sprightliness and point. There was not much in the part to prove her talent, but she emphasised its effects with never-failing alertness and liveliness, and made the most of what there was. Mr. Harold Chapin played the breezy sailor-lord with blunt boldness and hearty sincerity, and with just the necessary touch of innate good breeding. Miss Winifred Beech was a handsome, shapely and seductive Kate Gamlett, and her easy pose formed an effective contrast to Miss Jerome's energy and activity. Mr. Richard Evans contributed a well-considered character-sketch of the romantic little solicitor, with his Gilbertian prejudices against a good match; and was well dressed and made up for the part. Miss Lillian Ogilvy Williams gave an emphatic and striking embodiment of the authoritative Lady Susan, and used a highly-pitched voice very effectively. Mr. Ernest G. Cove and Miss Jeannie Thomas gave humorous depictions of a pair of middle-class rustics; and Mr. Chris Simpson was genuinely comic as a country constable, Mr. Edmond Breon playing the American, Amos Jordan, with straightforward soundness, and Mr. W. O. Billington being decidedly good as Inspector Flannelly-Jones. Minor rôles had excellent representatives in Mr. F. J. Rorke and Mr. F. St. Aubyn. The play, which was produced under the direction of the author, held the attention of the audience by its unflagging movement, and amused them by its diverting incidents. It was, and is, followed by "Great Catherine," which is as comical as ever, Mr. Norman McKinnel's ripe and real performance as Prince Patiomkin well undergoing the ordeal of a second inspection.

MR. DENIS O'NEIL.

The period was one of the proverbial "dull days before Christmas"; the time about four o'clock in the afternoon. There was an unusual knock at the interviewer's door. "Come in," huskily said the scribe; and the signs of hope and fear which corrugated his forehead speedily gave place to cheerfulness when the particularly jovial countenance of Mr. Denis O'Neil, the well-known Irish baritone, illumined the doorway, and the visitor was observed, jauntily wearing a sprig of holly and mistletoe in the lapel of his coat.

"As welcome as the flowers in May," gasped the writer.

"But this is not May, nor are these botanical signs and portents I am sporting especially associated with that period of the year," surprisedly observed the visitor.

"Forgive me. I have been writing through countless æons, and am—was—lost to all sense of time or period."

"I sympathise with you. I know that complaint—Cacoethes scribendi, 'tis called. Well, this sort of thing is somewhat contagious, and I believe *I* am now suffering from cacoethes loquendi."

But the writer had swooned; and when he had recovered consciousness some two hours later, and started the little electric battery of his office phonograph, he discovered upon the cylinder the following record:—

"Be merciful unto me, my friend, at this Season of Goodwill, as I have shown mercy to you (in allowing Morpheus to wing you into his kingdom for a space)—and forgive my blatant egotism. I have been described in print as 'A unique singer of Irish songs, and a second Denis O'Sullivan'; and I am, believe me, endeavouring to live, and sing, 'up' to this flattering reputation. I commenced my vocal career with concert work in Dublin, and, later, visited Belfast and other Irish towns.

"My first appearance upon the English concert stage was at Reading, at a concert in aid of the Dumb Friends' League, when I appeared upon the same platform as Margaret Cooper (a moet, may I add, charming and talented artiste, to whom I shall always owe a debt of gratitude), Maurice Farkoa, George Grossmith, Junr., genial

Mr. DENIS O'NEIL.

Tom Clare, Helen Mar, Frank Lambert, and other well-known people. I immediately afterwards accepted an engagement at the Tivoli, where I was billed as 'The Irish Boy Baritone'; and perhaps I looked (though then on the windward side of twenty) younger than I was—perchance by reason of the Eton suit I affected. I thereafter appeared at the Pavilion; and, alas, to my sartorial sorrow. It was in this wise. A Trinity Rugby XV. being on tour in England visited this Music-hall; and when they saw me (many of them were personal friends) in the said Eton suit, they ragged me mercilessly. At the conclusion of my songs, the XV., and others, foregathered at the stage door, seized me like brigands, and insisted that I should solemnly promise that I would at once burn my too youthful looking attire. My indignant protests were of no avail: and in order to secure my release, I was compelled to comply with their request forthwith—at a convenient and less frequented spot than where we were then assembled!

"After this drastic event, I thought I would resume my Concert work, and make a speciality of Irish songs—which, I may mention, I am still singing, and (so 'tis said) with much success.

"During the past summer I have been singing at, amongst other places, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, Harrogate, Margate, Torquay, and Bournemouth; and in the course of the present year I have fulfilled five separate engagements at Eastbourne and eight at Bournemouth; and also in London at the London Opera House, the Palladium, Alhambra, and at the Queen's Hall. I hope I may be permitted to say that I feel very gratified with this record. I am happy to state that my future Concert engagements will keep me well occupied during the next few years. Indeed, in consequence of my existing contracts I have been obliged to refuse offers to sing in America. How squeaky the cylinder has become! So—A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you, my sleeping friend, from yours sincerely, Denis O'Neil."

Mr. Richard F. Symons will spend his Christmas tour at the New Theatre, Manchester, with "Drake" Co., while Mrs. Symons (Miss Eva Moss) will be approaching Naples en route for Australia per s.s. Otway, where she will play under the management of Messrs. Williamson.

"THE FIXED IDEA."

Play, in Three Acts, by D. C. F. Harding, Produced at the Court Theatre on Monday afternoon, Dec. 15.

Lilian Lucas .....Miss Ethel St. Barbe
Mrs. Morier .....Miss Lydia Bush
John Morier .....Mr. J. H. Brewer
Grant Morier .....Mr. G. F. Weir
Mary Morier .....Miss Enid Bell
Alan Seymour .....Mr. Ronald Squire
Peter Morier .....Mr. Vernon Steel
Evan Waters .....Mr. C. F. Collings
Stiles .....Mr. Iolan Hallward
Hodges .....Mr. H. Montague
Sharpe .....Mr. J. Henry Twyford

A most inscrutable person is the chief character in "A Fixed Idea." Mrs. Morier has brought up her children carefully, but when they come of age endeavours to dominate their movements as she dominates the household. Her son, Peter, a civil engineer, who cannot get work at home, has an offer of a lucrative post abroad, but his mother refuses to let him go, until at last he is suspected of complicity in a forgery, and goes off to Australia to escape the police. The other son, Grant, has become entangled with a designing woman, who wishes to marry him, but is warned off by Grant's uncle, Evan Waters, who is the Sherlock Holmes of the family. Then, again, Mrs. Morier draws such a dismal picture of the misery which awaits Alan Seymour if he marries her daughter, who is a militant suffragist, that he breaks off the engagement, thus providing another case for the skill of Uncle Evan. Added to this Mrs. Morier is a woman with nerves, and everybody has to be at her beck and call. Even uncle has to succumb to her, for after reading her a severe lesson on egoism, Mrs. Morier sweetly forgives him.

She afforded the sole excuse for the production of "The Fixed Idea," which contains little dramatic action, while the dialogue is stilted and unimpressive. The airs and graces of Mrs. Morier were well assumed by Miss Lydia Bush, who sustained her part with becoming fortitude, and the sister who dances attendance on her was realistically portrayed by Miss Ethel St. Barbe. Evan Walters, who has a fair share of the family egoism, was made dramatically effective by Mr. C. F. Collings, and the ease and elocution of Mr. Ronald Squire were agreeably evident in his impersonation of Alan. Miss Enid Bell made a charming Suffragette, alike in manner and speech. Peter's outburst of indignation was well delivered by Mr. Vernon Steel, and Mr. G. F. Weir availed himself of his few opportunities as Grant Morier. There is a husband in the play, but he is a complete nonentity. Mr. J. H. Brewer played him as such, and was amusing.

The afternoon was opened by a dramatic episode, by Warren Killingworth, entitled

"THE MARK OF CAIN."

Elizabeth Stilward .....Miss Lilian Tweed
John Hollingsworth ....Mr. Leonard Calvert
Gilbert Stilward .....Mr. G. F. Weir
Samuel Davidson .....Mr. H. Montague
Nance Halliday .....Miss Eleanor Daniels
Solomon Brooks .....Mr. J. Henry Twyford

The mother is also the cause of the trouble in "The Mark of Cain," a morbid and depressing piece, in which Gilbert Stilward, after undergoing trial for murder, is acquitted. His mother, nevertheless, believes him guilty, and, declaring she sees on his brow the "mark of Cain," drives him forth into the storm, to be killed by a stroke of lightning as soon as he opens the door. Miss Lilian Tweed played the mother in a suitably melancholy key, and the erring son was pathetically presented by Mr. G. F. Weir.

"THE GIRL WHO DIDN'T."

A Musical Play in Three Acts, by Arthur Wimperis. Adapted from the German of Julius Krammer and Alfred Grunwald. (Music by Edmund Eysler. (A Revised Version of "The Laughing Husband.") Produced at the Lyric Theatre on Thursday, Dec. 18.

Lucinda .....Miss Amy Augarde
Hans Zimt .....Mr. Morant Weber
Dolly .....Miss Gwladys Gaynor
Hella Bruckner .....Miss Grace La Rue
Herr von Basewitz .....Mr. D. J. Williams
Baldrian .....Mr. Iago Llewys
Count Selztal .....Mr. F. Pope Stamper
Etelka Basewitz .....Miss Yvonne Arnaud
Lutz Nachtigall .....Mr. Lionel Mackinder
Ottakar Bruckner .....Mr. C. H. Workman
Pipelhuber .....Mr. Tom A. Shale
Wiedehopf .....Mr. Eliot Skinner
Dr. Rosenrot .....Mr. James Blakeley
Juliette .....Miss Violet Graham

Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presented last Thursday evening at the Lyric an amended—or shall we say revised?—version of the musical comedy "The Laughing Husband," which on its voyage to Shaftesbury-avenue lost several of the original cast. The place of Miss Daisie Irvine as Hella Bruckner is taken by Miss Grace La Rue, an American comedienne recently at the Palace Theatre. She makes a personal success in a new number, "The Tango dream." Mr. C. H. Workman, who fills the rôle of Ottakar Bruckner, originally played by Mr. Courtice Pounds, is a capital comedian whose work is always happily inspired. He gives a fresh turn of humour to the rôle of Ottakar Bruckner, though we miss the delightful singing by Mr. Pounds of "The wine of the Rhine." Miss Yvonne Arnaud brings rare charm and distinction to the part of Etelka, and she is supported admirably in some of her scenes by that mercurial actor Mr. Lionel Mackinder, who plays the poetaster Lutz, giving every possible value to the part. Miss Amy Augarde is well placed as Lucinda, and Mr. James Blakeley's unctuous comedy is a treat reserved for the last act. Mr. Tom Shale as Pipelhuber, Mr. F. Pope Stamper as Count Selztal, Miss Gwladys Gaynor as Dolly, and Mr. Morant Weber as Hans Zimt, play less important parts adequately. There are some lovely girls in the chorus, and their charms are set off by dresses that are really beautiful.

Messrs. Ernest Davies and F. Edgar Manaton, the secretary and manager respectively of the Dudley Opera House, were the recipients of a "bumping" joint benefit on Wednesday last. A fine programme was contributed by Miss Marie Hall, the celebrated violinist, and Mr. Frank Mullings, tenor. Other interesting items were songs by Miss Doris Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hanson's "Dominoes," and the Dudley Operatic Society in the first act of "The Pirates of Penzance." Mr. T. W. North was at the piano, and Mr. P. V. Williams, the newly appointed musical director, skilfully conducted an efficient orchestra.

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PANTOMIME GOSSIP.

Messrs. Will Parkin and Chas. Kasrac's pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," will be produced at the Hastings Pier Pavilion on Boxing Day. Miss Emmie King will be principal boy, and other artistes engaged include Mr. Ted Freeling, Mr. Will Parkin, Mr. Albert Zeimar, Mr. Percy and Miss Ethel Movis, Misses Bertha Russell, Florrie Booth, Cissie Hopkins, and Messrs. Griff, Hodson, Leonard, Bean. Specialities will be provided by La Belle Quartette, Norman and Noyce, comedians and dancers; the Rondeau Four, Mavis and Mavis, and Bieriot's Fairy Fountains.

The Cheltenham pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood," will be produced on Boxing Day by Mr. Arthur Rigby. The principal parts are in the hands of Miss Winnie Chapman, Miss Mary Perry, Messrs. Nolan and Snowden, and Mr. Percy Albert. Mr. Rigby himself will play the Dame.

The glories of the "Brit." as a pantomime house seem likely to be revived by this year's production of "Dick Whittington," under the general management of Mr. St. John Beecher. Miss Queenie Leighton is principal boy, and will sing "How are yer?" "You made me love you," and her well-known chorus number, "Come along, boys, and sing the chorus." Other principals in the cast are Mr. Julian Mack, Messrs. Lowenwirth and Cohen, Mr. Edwin Lawrence, and Miss Eva Ellis. The scenery includes a very fine set of Highgate Hill and the Palace of Morocco.

The Rochdale Theatre Royal, which has been closed for a fortnight, during which both the interior and exterior have been thoroughly renovated, will reopen on Friday, when Mr. James Kiddie will produce "Dick Whittington." Miss Queenie Mayor is filling the title-rôle. Mr. Tom H. Solly, who is also the stage-manager, plays Amelia, the cook. The panto. runs throughout next week, and on Monday, Jan. 5, "Red Riding Hood" will be staged.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The members of the Operatic Class of the Guildhall School of Music, under the direction of Mr. Landon Ronald, gave an excellent performance on Thursday evening, Dec. 19, of Edward German's opera, "Tom Jones," with libretto adapted by Messrs. Thompson and Courtneidge. The performance took place in the school theatre, and a large audience assembled. The conducting was shared by Mr. Landon Ronald and Mr. Hubert Bath; each were successful in their labours, and never allowed the musicians to be heard above the singers. The opening scene, "The Lawn at Squire Western's," was very animated. The acting and singing of Miss Dorothy Waring, who played Sophia Western, this being her first public appearance on any stage, proved very successful, her diction being clear, and her voice pleasing and bright, while she showed no little talent as an actress. Mr. Reginald Herbert sang exceedingly well as the hero, and the trio in Act I. between Sophia, Honour (her maid), and Tom Jones went with great spirit, as did also the lively "Barley Mow" song and dance by the Squire's servants. The Squire himself was portrayed in a regular roistering manner by Mr. Bevington Rosse, who made every word clear and distinct. Blifil, the only serious character, was well acted by Mr. Alfred Steed, and a word of praise must be awarded Miss Nellie Walker, who played the maid Honour with considerable ability, and made the most of her opportunities. Gregory, Grizzle, and Dobbin, the Squire's servants, were very amusing as played by Messrs. Carl True, Leonard Steel, and W. H. Cooper. Among other clever impersonations were that of Miss Hilda Jones as Miss Western, and Miss Marjorie Ayling as Lady Bellaston. The solo dancer, Miss Ivy Lloyd Dresden, gave evidence of good training, the chorus were very efficient, and considering the small limitations of the stage, moved about without any difficulty. The students' orchestra played with care and discretion, and the entire performance reflected great credit on Mr. Cairns James, the stage manager. The scenery was well painted by Mr. Bruce Smith, and dances arranged by Mr. B. Soutten.

MUSICAL COLLEGES AWARDS.

Prizes at the Royal Academy of Music have been thus allotted:—The Battison Haynes Prize for Composition to Gilbert Bolton, Morfydd Owen being highly commended. The Hine Prize (Composition) to Eva Pain, Philip Lèvi being commended; and the R.A.M. Club Prize (Composition) to Ethel Bilsland, Leo Livens being commended. The Rutson Memorial Prizes have been awarded as follows:—For Contraltos, Janie Blake, Elsie Gough being very highly commended; for Basses, Leonard F. Hubbard. The Potter Exhibition (Pianoforte) has been awarded to Arthur Brian Nash (of Darjeeling, India), Howard Clarke and Alfred Quaife being highly commended. The Westmorland Scholarship (Singing) to Gweneth Roberts, Margaret Harrison being very highly commended. The Sainton-Dolby Prize (Singing) to Eleanor Evans, Morfydd Owen being very highly commended, and Louie Brooks commended. The Philip L. Agnew Prize (Pianoforte) to Philip A. Lèvi, Vivian Langrish being commended. The Broughton Packer Bath Scholarship (Violoncello) to Giovanni Battista Barbirolli.

At the conclusion of the Christmas term of the Royal College of Music the following awards were made:—Council Exhibitions—Singing: Myfanwy Crawshay, £7; Dorothy C. Giles, £9; Clara M. Simons, £9. Violin: Anna M. Lynas, £9; Amy S. Whinyates, £6. Organ: Leonard E. Minchin, £5; Guillaume F. Ormond, £5. The Edmund Grove Exhibition (£20) to Alice K. E. Pattenden (A.R.C.M.). The Dove Prize (£13) to Elsie M. Dudding (A.R.C.M.), Director's Exhibitioner. The Lesley Alexander Gift (£21) to Harold Muslin (Scholar) and S. Dorothy Thuell (Scholar) jointly. The Manns Memorial Prize (£4 10s.) to Elsie M. Dudding, A.R.C.M. The Leo Stern Memorial Gift for a 'Cellist (£5 5s.) to James Pond (Norfolk and Norwich Scholar). The Norfolk and Norwich Scholarship was awarded to Audrey G. Calthrop, of Wells-on-Sea, Norfolk (violin), Margaret E. Skelton (piano), "Proxime Accessit."

The Sterndale Bennett Scholarship in any branch of music, the Thalberg Scholarship for pianists, and Ada Lewis Scholarship for violoncellists, and the Parepa-Rosa Scholarship for vocalists will all be competed for at the Royal Academy of Music on or about May 2 next.

Mr. Eric Williams, who is at present touring Manchester and district with his "Speaking Pictures," has met with so much success that he has found it necessary to extend his visit to the end of February, when he is compelled to return to London to fulfil other engagements.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT DUNDEE

On Tuesday evening, Dec. 16, Mr. Tom B. Davis produced his pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee. From rise to fall of the curtain there was no doubting the success of the pantomime, which is one of the most refined, ornate, and whimsical productions seen at Her Majesty's. The music, which is bright and tuneful throughout, has been selected, arranged, and composed by Mr. Tom Lewis, who must be heartily congratulated thereon. In "Goody Two Shoes" the librettist, the late Mr. J. Hickory Wood, has given a composite of several of the old nursery classics.

Several of the scenes (there are fourteen in all) aroused much enthusiasm. The Fairy Doll, with its running water and multi-coloured lights, is an exceedingly beautiful and artistic setting; the Scottish Moor scene is a conspicuous example of beautiful stagecraft; while Good Luck, the concluding scene, constitutes a feast of charmingly blended colours.

Miss Lily Hayes in the part of Goody made a truly charming and graceful principal girl, and displayed a cultivated voice and pleasing manner. She scored a decided hit with "I do love you, my orange girl," in which she was picturesquely assisted by the chorus in Spanish costume. She was also vociferously applauded for her song, "You made me love you," which she followed up with an exceedingly dainty dance. Miss Claude Thompson, whose acting was characterised by alertness and vivacity, made a capital principal boy as Reggie. She caught on at once, and made a great hit in her songs, "Hey ho! can't you hear the steamer?" "The way the wind blows we'll go," and the Scotch ditty, "Put on your tam o' shanter"; while she also shared the honours with Miss Hayes in the tuneful duet, "Take me in your arms." Dorothy, the Squire's ward from India, was delightfully played by Miss Daisy Manning, whose finished singing of the pretty song, "When love creeps in your heart," brought forth unstinted applause. Miss Felicia Firmin as Jack, the Squire's huntsman, acted with spirit, and in "That ripping rag" displayed marked ability as a dancer and vocalist. As Mary, the maid-of-all-work, Miss Jessie Jess was thoroughly amusing, her facial expression and unique delivery being valuable assets to her ludicrous ditty, "The fellow who married the girl." Mother Hubbard was sustained by Mr. Walter Dale, a richly humorous comedian, who in the various interludes with the other comedians worked indefatigably. He achieved success with his songs, "How are yer?" and "Thistles," while he also proved very entertaining in his mirth-provoking "Bo peep" ditty. Mr. Reginald Edwards as the Squire simply revelled in the part, and altogether achieved success. He has a popular song in "All the girls are lovely by the seaside," to which he did full justice. As Timothy Tacks, the village cobbler, Mr. Eddie Garr gave a very effective performance, and used his capital voice with excellent effect in his two songs, "Tricks of the trade" and "By and bye." Mr. George Conquest, jun., was an alert and realistic exponent of Mother Hubbard's canine companion, Fido, his gambo's and sympathetic treatment of the part affording continual delight to old and young alike. Messrs. Fame and Fortune as Fits and Starts proved an exceptionally clever pair of knockabouts. A special word of praise must be accorded Miss Leah Hanman, the premiere danseuse, whose arrangement of the ballets and incidental dances does her infinite credit. Miss Hanman and Miss Norah Walker as the Twin Fairies of Mischief disported themselves with elfish sprightliness and grace.

The pantomime was produced under the personal supervision of Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath, who must be warmly complimented on the smoothness of the opening performance. Credit is also due the largely augmented orchestra, under the skilful baton of Mr. Tom Lewis. The manager for the pantomime is Mr. A. J. Nicholls, who was also here last season in the same capacity. Mr. Thomas Hill is responsible for the admirable stage-management. Mr. H. W. Ramsay, Her Majesty's popular resident-manager, was much in evidence looking after the comfort of his patrons.

BEN GREET STUDENTS.

There were some pleasant surprises at the students' performances at the Ben Greet Academy on Thursday afternoon. We found the Bijou Theatre in Bedford-street newly decorated in red and cream, while mirrors round the walls enhanced the attractiveness of the room. Then, besides the items on the programme, there was an unrehearsed scene, in the course of which Mr. Boyd Stelling presented Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn with a volume on "English Costumes," on behalf of the pupils, in appreciation of his painstaking efforts in instructing them. Mr. Llewellyn said he was more than grateful for the present, which was quite unexpected. It was one of the good things of life to know that one's efforts were appreciated.

The programme was mostly humorous. It began with "The Mousetrap," in which Miss Margaret Maddox assumed very naturally the hysterical nervousness of the suffragette who fears nothing except a mouse, and Mr. Boyd Stelling played with agreeable ease as the lover who is responsible for the scare.

A capital rendering—almost up to professional standard—of "A Breezy Morning" was given by Mr. Edward Reynolds and Miss Kitty Flower, the former having a most engaging delivery.

Fencing with foils was done by Professors F. G. Macpherson and Evan James, who had two furious onslaughts, but were very polite, to the extent of apologising when one disarmed the other. Miss Ilene Lowe sang "The little damozel" and danced daintily, and a Danse Ruése was expertly performed by Enid and Gerald St. Ruth.

The afternoon ended with "Tilda's New Hat," in which Miss Amy O'Donohoe and Miss Lily O'Donohoe, whose undoubted dramatic gifts have been improved by recent appearances on the professional stage, played Mrs. Fishwick and her daughter in a way that extracted all the humour out of those amusing parts. Miss May Hole portrayed the forlorn Daisy Meadows effectively, and Mr. Robert Watt, though he spoke with irritating deliberation, thoroughly realised the self-satisfied printer. Mrs. Fewlass Llewellyn presided, with her usual ability, at the piano.

The creditors of the London Opera House Company, at their adjourned meeting at Covent Garden Hotel, on Tuesday (16th) appointed a committee, consisting of Mr. Ross, of the International Spectacle Submarine Corporation, and Mr. Cooke and Mrs. Wulff, members of the Society Circus, to approach Mr. E. A. V. Stanley, managing-director of the Opera House, "with a view to obtaining good terms from him for settlement of their debts."

THE FIRST PRINCIPAL BOY, 1913.

MISS CLARA BECK'S TRIUMPH.

Miss Clara Beck is the principal boy of the first pantomime of the year at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, where "King Cole" was produced on Thursday night last. Never before has such a scene been witnessed as that which greeted the final phrase of Miss Clara Beck's song, "You made me love you." The house rose and cheered her to the echo. The wonderful way in which this talented artiste rendered this number was unique, and showed her to be not only the possessor of a fine voice, but also an emotional actress of no mean talent. There is no doubt that this popular song received the best rendition it has ever had. The most successful of her other three songs was "My southern maid," which is entirely dissimilar in style and was equally well received, and showed this popular artiste's great versatility, the two numbers easily gaining the honours of the evening. Encore after encore had to be given, and if the audience had had their way

[Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.

MISS CLARA BECK.

Miss Beck would have been singing until well after midnight. That Miss Beck has made one of the greatest successes ever scored by any principal boy at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, was the unanimous verdict of the audience as they left the theatre. Only to the reception of the great Harry Lauder when he played the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, can her wonderful reception be compared, which is indeed a triumph for Miss Clara Beck, who has our heartiest congratulations.

Although Miss Beck was seen in the part of "Vice" in "Everywoman" at Drury Lane last autumn, where she made a hit in the part, and previously appeared on the Alhambra stage for two months, singing a very effective Scotch song in kilts, and also a pretty Irish number, and has since appeared for a while in one of the leading parts of the revue at the London Opera House, we have seen too little of this young and versatile artiste in London, but we believe that we are to be more favoured in the future.

"ALL BECAUSE OF JOAN."

The Leigh Dramatic Society were responsible for the production of "All Because of Joan," a comedy in three acts, by Robert Holmes, at the Streatham Large Hall, on Saturday, Dec. 13.

The play opens in the drawing-room of the house of Sir George Bland, J.P., at Haslemere, with Mrs. Harding, an old relation of the family, in conversation with the butler, who is laying the tea-table for a tennis party. They are expecting the arrival of Joan Wharburton, the daughter of an old friend, who long ago left England for Australia, where he made a fortune at sheep farming. Joan soon enters, and far from being the shy Colonial expected, she proves to be a well-dressed young lady, with plenty of aplomb. She is, in addition, an all-round good sportswoman, and somewhat shocks the old-fashioned Mrs. Harding. But she attracts the old Colonel Sedgwick, a retired soldier, and young Reggie Studleigh, another visitor at the Blands'. This fact is noticed by his sister Grace, who ends the act with a soliloquy, in which she tells the audience that Joan is the daughter of the man who jilted her many years ago. The second act shows the ladies in the same apartment waiting for the gentlemen to rejoin them. The elders settle down to a game of whist, and Reggie and Joan exchange confidences. This so disquiets Grace that she can hardly continue the game. When she gets her brother alone she tells him of her sorrow, and makes him promise to have no further thought of Joan. The last act is morning in the same room, where it transpires that Joan and Reggie have been out on horseback together. She has challenged him to take a certain difficult jump, at which his horse has fallen and has occasioned the breaking of his arm. She sympathises with him and blames herself, with the result that Reggie's affection gets the better of his promise and a mutual avowal of love takes place. Grace enters and upbraids them both, her words causing Joan to reconsider her affection for Reggie; but the appearance of Joan's father, Jack Wharburton, causes a revulsion of feeling on the part of Grace, and she agrees to marry Jack, who is now a widower, and implores Joan to accept Reggie.

It is a play well within the powers of its amateur exponents, and all did well. Mrs. Hedley Quick was very good as the old Mrs. Harding, and Mr. W. Holmes Clarke as the self-made knight, Sir George Bland, was bluff and breezy. Mr. Edwin Nelson as Reggie Studleigh was earnest and natural, but a little too much in need of the "word" at times. Miss Alice Clarke made an excellent Lady Bland, and acted easily; and Mr. H. V. Barwell gave plenty of colour to the part of the old Tory colonel.

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Imperial Review." Price 9d. Edited by Demos. Published by A. M'Kinley and Co., Melbourne.

"The London Magazine." January. Price 6d. Published by the Amalgamated Press, Ltd.

"The Encore Annual." Price 6d. Published by The Encore, Ltd.

"The Primus Kinematograph Diary." Published by W. Butcher and Sons.

"The Pall Mall Magazine" for January. Price 6d. net. Published by Iliffe and Sons, Ltd.

"Sporting Life Companion for 1914." Price 2d. Published by F. L. Fetch.

"The Lumber Room" and other short plays. By Catherine Belkairs Gaskoin. Price 2s. net. Published by Stanley Paul and Co.

"Quo Vadis?" Musical drama. Composed by Felix Nowowiejski. The English translation of the musical drama and notes by John Bernhoff. Price 8d. Published by Aloys Maier.

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ALLAH'S ORCHARD.—Dec. 22, Palace T., Scunthorpe; Dec. 29, T.R., Hyde.
ALICE UP-TO-DATE.—Dec. 22, Empire T., Nottingham.
A MILL GIRL'S WEDDING.—Dec. 22, County T., Bangor; Dec. 29, Empire T., Hednesford.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Dec. 22, T.R., Peterborough; Dec. 29, T.R., Tyldesley.
AUSTRALIAN NELL.—Dec. 22, Alexandra T., Widnes.
BULMER, MR.—Dec. 22, Junction T., Manchester; Dec. 29, Junction T., Manchester.
CASTELLANO OPERA CO.—Dec. 22, Gloucester.
CINDERELLA.—Dec. 22, Opera H., Buxton; Dec. 29, King's T., Greenock.
CLAUDIAN.—Dec. 22, Alex. T., New Washington; Dec. 29, Town Hall, Alloa.
COASTGUARD'S DAUGHTER, THE.—Dec. 22, T.R., Barrow.
COLLIER'S LASS, THE (NORTH CO.).—Dec. 22, Grand T., Rawtenstall; Dec. 29, T.R., Middlesboro'.
COLLIER'S LASS, THE (SOUTH CO.).—Dec. 22, T.R., Bilston; Dec. 29, T.R., Bilston
DAN THE OUTLAW.—Dec. 24, County T., Bangor.
DEADWOOD DICK.—Dec. 22, Hippo., Ogmore Vale.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA CO.—Dec. 22, Gaiety T., Hastings; Dec. 29, P.G.T., Folkestone.
FACE AT THE WINDOW. — Dec. 22, Hippo., Langley Moor.
FOR AULD LANG SYNE.—Dec. 22, Junction T., Manchester; Dec. 29, Junction T., Manchester.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Dec. 22, T.R., Bargoed; Dec. 29, Metropole T., Abertillery.
GAMBLER, THE, CO.—Dec. 22, T.R., Middlesbrough; Dec. 29, T.R., South Shields.
GIRL IN THE TAXI (RED).—Dec. 26, Opera H., Northampton.
GIRL OF MY HEART. — Dec. 22, Victoria Palace, Walthamstow.
HEADMASTER.—Dec. 26, Ashford; Dec. 29, St. Albans.
HEART BOWED DOWN.—Dec. 22, Gaiety T., Houghton-le-Spring.
HER PATH OF SORROW.—Dec. 22, Victoria T., Kettering.
HINDLE WAKES.—Dec. 22, Palace T., Preston; Dec. 29, Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
INDIAN GIRL'S DEVOTION. — Dec. 22, Grand T., Chorley; Dec. 29, Royalty T., Rushden.
INDIAN SCOUT, THE.—Dec. 22, Metropole T., Abertillery; Dec. 29, Grand T., Radcliffe.
IT'S ALWAYS THE WOMAN.—Dec. 29, T.R., Macclesfield.
KIT CARSON.—Dec. 22, Marina T., Lowestoft.
LOVE AND A THRONE.—Dec. 26, T.R., King's Lynn; Dec. 29, T.R., Lowestoft.
MARSH ALEXANDER.—Dec. 22, Queen's T., Longton; Dec. 29, Queen's T., Longton.
MARY LATIMER—NUN.—Dec. 22, Gaiety T., Burnley.
MIRACLE, THE (N. CO.).—Dec. 22, T.R., Bolton.
MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD. — Dec. 22, Hippo., Huddersfield; Dec. 29, Hippo., Huddersfield.
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NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE.—Dec. 22, T.R., Swansea; Dec. 29, Opera H., Kidderminster.
OH! OH! DELPHINE.—Dec. 22, Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME.—Dec. 22, Palace T., Clay Cross.
ONLY A MILL GIRL.—Dec. 22, T.R., Keighley.
ONLY AN ARTIST'S MODEL.—Dec. 22, T.R., Belfast.
OUR KID.—Dec. 22, Empire T., Middleton.
PETER PAN.—Dec. 26, T.R., Birkenhead.
PRAIRIE OUTLAW.—Dec. 22, Grand T., Doncaster; Dec. 29, T.R., Jarrow.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE CO.—Dec. 22, Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.
PROOF.—Dec. 22, T.R., Maesteg; Dec. 29, Theatre, Dowlais.
QUEEN OF THE REDSKINS.—Dec. 22, Gaiety T., Dundee.
QUEEN MOTHER.—Dec. 22, Opera House, Wakefield; Dec. 29, Opera House, Wakefield.
RED COAT, THE.—Dec. 22, T.R., Grantham; Dec. 29, New Hall, Bargoed.
RILEY'S REVELLERS.—Dec. 22, Opera H., Belfast; Dec. 29, Opera H., Belfast.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Dec. 22, Opera H., Kidderminster; Dec. 29, Royalty T., Barrow.
SECRET SERVICE SPY.—Dec. 22, Empire, Cradley Heath, Dec. 29, Pav. T., Morley.
SHERIFF OF LONESOME PINE.—Dec. 22, Alex. T., Hull; Dec. 29, Alex. T., Hull.
SILVER KING.—Dec. 29, T.R., Lincoln.
SLEDGE HAMMER.—Dec. 22, Grand T., Cheadle, Staffs; Dec. 29, Albert T., Brighouse.
STILL ALARM.—Dec. 22, King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
STRATFORD-ON-AVON PLAYERS.—Dec. 22, Standard T., Johannesburg.
SWEET LAVENDER.—Dec. 22, H.M.T., Carlisle.
THE OLD HOME.—Dec. 22, T.R., Sunderland; Dec. 29, Grand T., Stockton-on-Tees.
TO RIGHT HIS PEOPLE'S WRONGS.—Dec. 22, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester; Dec. 29, Palace T., Ramsgate.
VACANT CHAIR, THE.—Dec. 22, T.R., Glossop.
VICTIMS OF VICE. — Dec. 22, Cambridge T., Spennymoor; Dec. 29, Alex. T., New Washington.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—Dec. 22, West London T., W.; Dec. 29, Palace T., Ramsgate.
WHITE GIRL SLAVE.—Dec. 92, Surrey T., S.E.; Dec. 29, West London T., W.
WHITE MAN, A.—Dec. 22, Grand T., Nelson.
WHITE SLAVE LIFE.—Dec. 29, Queen's T., Poplar, E.
WHITE SLAVES OF LONDON.—Dec. 22, T.R., Oldham.
WIFE AND KINGDOM.—Dec. 22, New Hippo., Bargoed; Dec. 29, Metropole T., Abertillery.
WOMAN AND WINE.—Dec. 22, Princes T., Portsmouth.
WOMAN HE WANTED, THE.—Dec. 22, Grand T., Stockton.
YOUNGER GENERATION.—Dec. 22, Opera H., Perth; Dec. 29, H.M.T., Carlisle.

THE LEVERTON PLAYERS.

Four new one-act plays were presented by Mrs. Waldemar-Leverton at the Court Theatre on Thursday last. The first, entitled "Miss Brown's Brother," by Miss Dorothy Sadler, was a very feeble and improbable little piece, in which a burglar is mistaken by the daughter of the house for a long-absent brother. And when his real identity is revealed, and the girl's father has gone for the police, she is persuaded by the "trussed" intruder—who we gather has been burgling for a bet—to run away with him. The next piece, "Cross Purposes," by Major T. MacGregor Greer, concerns the misunderstandings arising out of a conversation between a very deaf couple, and created considerable amusement. "Desperation," by Noel Scott, is an effectively-written "spoof" tragic episode, in which an apparently distraught woman tells of the inhuman treatment she has received from her husband, who is lying dead at her feet. At first she declares that her husband has committed suicide, but eventually she is forced to confess to the visitor—a theatrical manager—that she had murdered him. She persuades the manager, however, that she was justified in her action, and he is prepared to swear to the police that it was a case of suicide, when the "dead" man calmly arises from the floor. The couple had only been pretending in order to prove their abilities as actors, and the manager will give them an engagement. Mr. Chappell Dorsett and Miss Carrie Haase both did excellent work in this engrossing little play. The concluding piece, an amusing little Christmas story by Henry Allen Ashton entitled "Eileen's Santa Claus," shows how a rich relative, returning from abroad and finding the broker's men annexing the furniture of a Mr. Tamlinton, decides to impersonate Santa Claus, and give everyone in the household a good time. The little girl, whose kindness prompts him to this action, was naturally enacted by Miss Lilian Hay. Mrs. Edith Waldemar-Leverton and Mr. Milton Frey did excellently as the impecunious husband and wife. Miss Armine Grace was quietly quaint as a servant, and the furniture-shifting and the repartee of the broker's men, as played by Mr. Charles How, Mr. Walter Danks, and Mr. Arthur Lindo, were responsible for much merriment.

URBAN CLUB.

The members of the Urban Club held their Christmas gathering at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Friday evening, under the genial chairmanship of Dr. Bernard Hurtzhorne, faced by Mr. F. J. Winkley, of Southwark, and Mr. J. Bryant Sowerby, F.L.S. The club guest was Sir William Bull, M.P., who gave a most interesting address on "Historic Yuletides." Amongst other guests were Messrs. John L. Child, Henry Belcham (of "The Era"), who, with others, acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors." The contributors to the evening's programme of music and recitation included Messrs. Walter Grace, Alfred Jenner, J. L. Child, E. J. Odell, and Miss Muriel Bishop, who recited with grace and feeling a poem entitled "Christmas," written by Mr. R. T. Baines, a member of the club. Miss Bishop, enthusiastically recalled, gave another appropriate recitation "Christmas Bells," with musical accompaniment.

In accordance with Urban custom, punch mixed in the club's Garrick Bowl, and the W. E. Church Cup, was handed round in the course of the evening.

Mr. E. Chas. Fâche, the hon. secretary, announced that a photograph of the Shakespeare Memorial in Southwark Cathedral has been kindly presented to the club by Dr. Leftwich, a member, to whose instrumentality South London owes this tribute to the memory of our national dramatist.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

W. HY. GREEN.—*It is impossible for us to give the necessary time for searching out the information you require.*

AMBER.—*Mrs. Brown-Potter played the part of Mme. Du Barri in the production of an adaptation of Jean Richepin's play at the Savoy on March 18, 1905.*

ANNIE COLLINS.—*We could not say; and as we only interest ourselves in the professional career of an artiste, and leave their private affairs alone, we shall not inquire.*

ENQUIRER.—*We are told by a correspondent that Gertie Gitana is a native of Burslem, Staffs. She made her first professional appearance at the Star, Barrow, at a benefit of O'Connor and Brady. She was then travelling with Ernie Myers and Lily Lonsdale, but not under the same professional name that she now bears. Mr. James O'Connor took up her business arrangements, and brought her to the top of the tree, but, our informant states, he is no relative.*

PLAYGOERS' INTERNATIONAL DINNER.

Actresses of other lands who are now ministering to the enjoyment of London were honoured at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday, when the Playgoers' Club gave their annual ladies' dinner, which they had made of an international character. Mr. Marshall Hall (the president) occupied the chair, and in close proximity sat the Russian actress, Madame Yavorska, Miss Wish Wynne, the leading lady of "The Great Adventure," and Miss Shirley Kellog, one of America's most charming contributions to the English stage. A picturesque figure was Mdlle. Aya Yamada, the real Japanese maid in "The Pursuit of Pamela," who was a pupil of Sada Yacco, and hails from Osaka. She was attending her first European dinner, and bore the ordeal unflinchingly. Others present were Mrs. and Miss Marshall Hall, Mr. Harold Smith, M.P., Miss Carlotta Mesetti, Miss Helen Callen, Miss Minnie Terry, Mr. Alfred Turner, Miss Carmen Turia, Mr. James Sharpe, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. B. Kibblewhite, Miss Jean Aylwin, Miss Joan Sutherland, and Mr. and Mrs. Osman Edwards.

Proposing the toast of "The Ladies," the chairman recalled the fact that the club had had the honour of entertaining at their ladies' dinners some of the most celebrated of our English actresses. They were so much impressed with the extraordinary friendship which existed between England and the other nations that they thought it a splendid opportunity of giving an international dinner. They welcomed Madame Lydia Yavorska as a great woman and a great actress. Miss Wish Wynne was another great actress who, among her other accomplishments, had succeeded in promoting Mr. Henry Ainley from the part of jeune premier into the ranks of leading character actors. They were only too ready to welcome the beautiful foreigner in their midst, and if there now present were a fair sample of the bulk he would say let them send the bulk along as fast as they could. He referred to the efforts Mr. Bransby Williams was making on behalf of that dear old "mummer," Mr. Mark Melford, and added that the Playgoers' Club was running a list of subscriptions.

Mme. Lydia Yavorska (Princess Bariatinsky) acknowledged the toast, and said that she was glad that Russia had always been a country of energy from the time of Catherine the Great—she meant the real Catherine, who was the first monarch to endow a school for girls. "In England," she concluded, "I am never homesick. I feel quite at home here, and my heart goes out to you all."

Miss Wish Wynne said she was far too small and shy a person to undertake such a leading rôle as this, for she had not Mr. Arnold Bennett to write her "lines" or Mr. Granville Barker to suggest how things should be done. She and her sisters were proud of such gallant and chivalrous playgoers, and the players always remained their humble and obedient servants.

To the delight of the audience, Miss Wish Wynne obliged with two character impersonations during the entertainment which followed, recalling her music hall triumphs. Other contributors to the programme were:—Miss Olive Fox, Miss Flora Mann, Miss Edith Trevor, Mr. Robert Carr, Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge, Mr. Randell Jackson, Mr. Frederic Lake, Mr. Ernest Mills, Mr. Harold Montague, Mr. Olley Oakley, and Mr. Albert Whelan.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*

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—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

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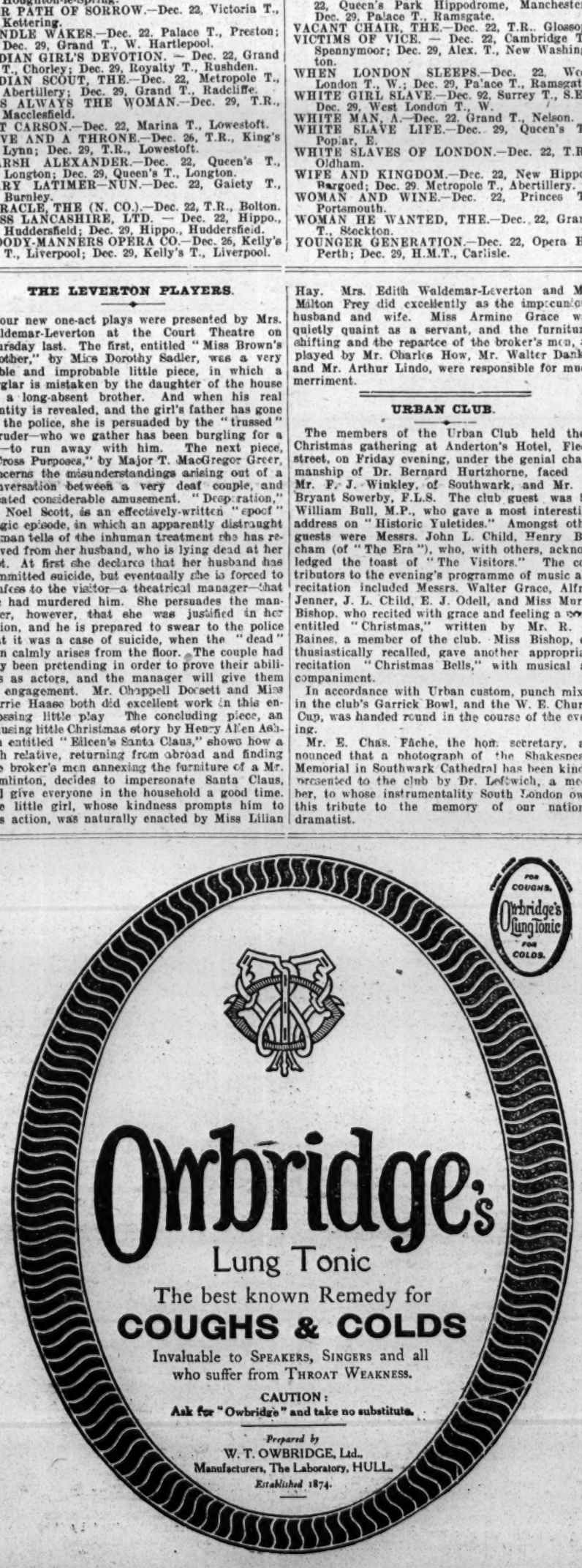

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Arthur Watson, Flo Stanley and company, after their successful London season with their latest musical comedy, "Sprouts," leave town at Christmas. They then open at Portsmouth, and return to town at Easter.

The Christmas theatrical traffic on the Great Western Railway has been remarkably heavy during the past week and has exceeded all previous records. No fewer than twenty-five pantomime, musical comedy, and other companies travelled from Paddington to Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Smethwick, Hereford, Bristol, South Wales, Cork, and the West of England.

The ban which the India Office placed upon Mr. R. Caton Woodville's Eastern spectacle, "The Romance of India," thus delaying the rehearsal for nearly three weeks, has made it impossible to have the production ready for Boxing Day, as originally arranged, and it is therefore postponed until the New Year.

Miss Dorothy Ray, a member of a well-known musical family and herself an amateur actress of experience, made her professional début at the Grand Theatre, Derby, as Lady Betty in "Little Miss Ragtime" with Miss Isa Bowman. Miss Ray sang, danced and acted with much charm.

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PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"TOMMY TUCKER" AT GLASGOW.

On Thursday, Dec. 18, Mr. Rich Waldon produced the thirty-fourth pantomime at the Royal Princess's, and though "the home of pantomime in Scotland" has witnessed many enthusiastic first nights, these were eclipsed by the heartiness of the welcome accorded his latest production. Since the death of Fred Locke, Mr. Waldon has been his own author, and again this year has put together a clever book with unlimited opportunities for the comedians, and telling lines for the principals all round. In his choice of principals Mr. Waldon has again been most happy. As Tommy Tucker we have Miss Josie Delaine, and this clever and sprightly young lady possesses all the elements of success for the part. Miss Delaine's song successes during the evening included "Back to bonnie Scotland," "Hey-ho, can't you hear the steamer?" "Take me in your arms, and say you love me," "Dance your troubles away," and, in addition, she was prominent in the concerted pieces. As Tommy's sweetheart, Polly Primrose, Miss Marjorie Lawrence is another happy hit. Charming in appearance, she also possesses special gifts as a comedienne, and is a neat and dainty dancer. She makes a big success with "It's a long, long way to Tipperary," while her song, "Way down south" (with dance), was equally successful. Mr. Tubby Edin as Dr. Swanker has a "fat" part, and though he plays it on quiet and unforced lines, not a point is missed. His business in the shop scene is very good, the quack doctor's methods in the market-place are reproduced with humorous fidelity, and as a waiter in the Rag-time Restaurant he introduces quite a plethora of funny business. Mr. J. Randle Wilson is seen again as the wicked Baron, and plays the part well, in addition to the onerous duties of stage management. Mr. Billy Walters, who was Scotch comedian here last year, is again seen in a similar part, and despite the sameness of the rôle, he manages to infuse a good deal of new and enjoyable fun into the character of Dougal. He gave a rag-time ditty with good effect, and has also a clever song about the pleasures of holidaying in the "Isle of Man." Miss Retta Hackett, a clever young Scotch comedienne and dancer, appears as Leezie Lindsay, and sustains her share of the performance well. Her two songs, "Maggie McKenzie" and "Does your mother know you're out?" went with acclamation, and the accompanying dances added the seal of success. The Sisters Iris, May and Cissie, make an attractive couple as second boy and girl, and to them is allotted many of the most popular songs included in this season's crop. Mr. Charles Kay and Mr. Carson Hicks appear at first as a couple of racing tipsters, and have a large share in the unravelling of the Baron's wicked plot to keep Tommy out of his estates. They are clever comedians, who introduce a lot of funny business and are never at a loss. Mr. Hicks has a smart speciality song and dance, "Hopping about," which was well received. Last, but by no means least, in the comedy element is Mr. George Byrne, as Dame Bakewell, and this excellent comedian plays the part on traditional lines, but with a humour that is all his own. Miss Nora Bird is an attractive Fairy Faithful, and sings "When love creeps in your heart" with charming effect. Mr. J. Freeman as Bowline and Mr. Jack Browne as Holdfast get a chance for some rough and tumble fun in the yacht scene. Among the musical items that must be specially mentioned is a nigger ditty, "Silence, children," sung by the five leading comedians; the popular song, "When the midnight choo-choo leaves for Alabam," which is given as a song and dance item by the Six Acacia Girls; and the "Wedding glide," which forms the finale to the pantomime.

As has been the case now for a number of years, all the scenery is designed and painted by Mr. J. C. Bontor, the resident scenic artist at the Princess's, and he had to respond to several calls on Thursday for the really artistic set scenes provided. The opening scene, "The Village of Happy Valley," is a most attractive one; "The Bakehouse" is wonderfully well designed and carried out; and "The Rag-time Restaurant" is another triumph for Mr. Bontor. In the second half of the pantomime Mr. Waldon has revived a clever scene he had some years ago, a running track, with a 'bus and moving panorama, and this allows lots of scope for funny business. Mr. Bontor, in the yacht scene, has introduced many clever effects, and as the wreck of the yacht is worked on a revolving platform, it takes the full extent of the stage. The closing scene in the reception hall is cleverly designed, and, in addition, Mr. Bontor has a number of attractive front cloths, the best of which is perhaps the Houses of Parliament, though the others, "Near the River," "The Road to Town," and "On the Road to the Bakehouse," all have their special features. The music is all selected or arranged, and special numbers composed by Henri Vollmer, of the Princess's. The costumes this year are on a more elaborate scale than usual, and are by Miss Binnie, costumier of this theatre, and by Alias, London. Mr. Hugh Murdoch is at his accustomed post as acting manager and treasurer, assisted by Mr. Forbes M'Ewan in the front of the house. The pantomime was produced under the personal direction of Mr. Rich Waldon, who in his speech of thanks at the fall of the curtain was able to record another to the long list of successes at the Royal Princess's Theatre.

"ALADDIN" AT EDINBURGH.

The pantomime season at the Theatre Royal, where for many years a reputation for the excellence of its annual Christmas entertainments has been unfailingly maintained, started under most favourable auspices on last Thursday evening. This year, by arrangement with Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd., Mr. Milton Bode becomes responsible for the winter holiday production, and, judging from the acclamation with which it has been received by the Press and the public, there can be little doubt that the grand fairy pantomime of "Aladdin" will worthily uphold the traditions of the "Royal," and enjoy a successful run. Mr. G. M. Slater is the author of the "book," which retains enough of the familiar nursery tale to secure the interest of juveniles; while opportunities are happily provided for the vaudeville interludes. The latest popular ditties of the season are included among the musical attractions of the piece; very beautiful and artistic dresses by Alias and Miss Nellie Thorngate; and choice floral effects (also by Alias), provide exquisite schemes of colour, which are set off by fine scenery from the hands of Messrs. J. Markwell Davis, J. Forster, and Fred Storey. The Market Place in Old Pekin, The Enchanted Cave, the Palace Gardens, and The Interior of Willow-Pattern Palace are among the more elaborate settings, and, with their Orientally attired crowds of citizens or groups of dancers and attendants, form quite striking spectacles, the resources of costumiers and scene-painters having been used to good purpose with most pleasing results.

The performance went with commendable smoothness, which bespoke careful rehearsal. After a suitable overture, a brief prologue, spoken by Miss Doris Cooper in the character of Tanta-Lum, the Spirit of the Lamp, preceded the rise of the curtain on Abanazar's laboratory, where the magician lays bare his intention of seeking for the magic lamp with the aid of Wang-Ti, the genie of the ring, and in spite of the opposing influence of Tanta-Lum. Following this preliminary in an abode of darkness, the story transports us at once to the city of Pekin, with its gaiety and brightness, which prevail for the most part throughout the succeeding scenes. In this sunny environment the principals in the cast are all made known to the audience. The hero, Aladdin, has a capable and attractive exponent in Miss Nellie Wigley, whose comelin ss, combined with delightful acting and singing, quickly established her a favourite with the house. Miss Madeline Rossiter, too, as the Princess Badroulbadour, secured instant recognition as a sweet singer and dainty dancer; and the part of Ni-Cee, the lady-in-waiting, gave Miss Alice Wallis the opportunity, in a subsequent scene, of making a hit with the song, "Ever of you I am dreaming." The rôles of Pekoe, the Vizier's son, and No-Tin, Aladdin's friend, were nicely filled by Miss Doris Melrose and Miss Amy Preece. Mr. Clifford Morgan is the Abanazar, and he comes out strong in the part, investing it with powerful dramatic interest, besides rendering the song, "My home is far away," with telling effect. He and Miss Rossiter also introduce a Tango dance very acceptably. Among the popular sentimental songs allotted to the chief ladies may be mentioned "When love creeps in your heart," "You made me love you," sung by Miss Wigley and Miss Rossiter respectively, both of whom were the recipients of many bouquets during the evening. The comedian element is well represented, high honours falling to Mr. Marriott Edgar, whose Widow Twankey is a most exhilarating performance. His quips and cranks, topical allusions, and songs are all in the happiest vein of humour, adding immensely to the fund of pleasantries with which the pantomime is plentifully furnished. The rôle of the Vizier is utilised to furnish a Scotch comedian with a characteristic part, in which Mr. Wal Croft is enabled to renew his acquaintance with friends and admirers here in congenial fashion. Mr. Will Gane finds unlimited scope for his briskness and energy as the laundryman, Wishee-Washee, whose song, "How are you?" is cleverly sung. The two Chinese policemen, Bob-Bi and Bob-Bee, are presented amusingly enough in an unconventional manner by Mr. Dolf Wheeler and Mr. Hal Russ; and Mr. Dick Burke suggests rather slyly the latter-day decadence of Imperial importance in China by his impersonation of Hung-Hi. Collins's London troupe of sixteen dancers provide several choice ballets in one of which Miss Ray Espinosa, première danseuse, dances in the old style so gracefully that the audience would willingly see further displays of her terpsichorean skill and accomplishments.

The more imposing scenes in which the main episodes of the story are developed have been indicated above; but there are several settings devoted specially to the whimsical interludes supplied by the resourcefulness of the comedians. Prominent among these come the Imperial Bath Club, Widow Twankey's Cottage Home, and the South Pole, all of which are noteworthy for much genuine frolic and fun; and when these scenes are condensed and tightened up here and there—as will be done in due course—the pantomime will be strengthened where it is at present somewhat exuberant. The music, which has been specially written and composed by Mr. Knight Pearce, is always tuneful and agreeable; and the pantomime is produced by Mr. P. Allerton Turner, under the supervision of Mr. Milton Bode. Mr. Frank Seldon ably conducts the orchestra.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT THE KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

The management of this house, which has advanced in enterprise under the energetic direction of Mr. P. L. Howat, has decided this year to produce a pantomime of its own. "The Forty Thieves," from the pen of the late Mr. Fred Locke, has been selected, and the spectacle was produced on Thursday evening of last week before an audience which crowded the house from gallery to pit. The plot retains a sufficient resemblance to the old Arabian Nights tale, and it bristles with puns and neat rhymes in the manner peculiar to the clever author who was responsible for the book. Local allusions from another source have been liberally introduced, and many opportunities are afforded for the display of the particular talents of the admirable artistes who comprise the cast. The scenes, which are chiefly Eastern, have given the painters a chance for brightness of colour and brilliance in lighting effects of which they have laid hold, while the act entitled "Portobello as it may be" presents that seaside resort of Edinburghers in an aspect in which few citizens will be privileged to see it. Mr. Martin Adeson, the well-known comedian, plays Ali Baba with a wealth of humorous resource that is sure to make the character one of the most popular in the piece. He sings with much amusing expression, and the chief numbers that fall to his part, "When my wife's in, I'm out" and "P.C. 49," are received with great applause. Miss Annie Cohen as Cogia Baba acts with an immense amount of chic and go, and in conjunction with Mr. Adeson gives a droll burlesque of various members of an audience at picture shows, which was one of the hits of the evening. Miss Ivy Proudfoot is Ganem, and this excellent artiste acts very brightly, and sings with notable finish and charm. Miss Nancy Vivien is an attractive Morgiana. Her rendering of the part of principal girl is marked by grace and vivacity, and her beautiful contralto voice is a very valuable asset. As the leader of the Forty Thieves, Miss Olive Tempest impresses the audience by her dignified bearing and pleasant voice. Mr. Stanley Vandyke's Cassim is an intelligent bit of comedy work, and Mr. Alec Shawland's acting as Mustapha is enhanced by his ability as a mimeur. His imitations of various song birds were loudly applauded. Miss Bessie Goodman as Cassim's wife is a prepossessing young actress, and Miss May Carter, the premier danseuse, gives a charming exhibition of her art, especially in the Oriental dance. Mr. Harry Zietz, as Clara, the donkey, presents a funny animal study; and there are a number of variety turns of an entertaining kind introduced by the Ten Dixie Girls, exhilarating dancers; the Four Terry Sisters; Jean and Josie, remarkable contortionists in their lizard impersonations; Gallacher and West, in a smart imitation of a wrestling bout; and the King's Harmonists, a fine male voice chorus. The music, which is throughout flowing and tuneful, has been arranged by Mr. A. Douglas Willcox, the capable musical-director of the theatre, and the pantomime has been produced by Mr. Harry T. Butler, who deserves much praise for the success of the spectacle in every department.

"Pantomime and Vaudeville Favourites," the new Christmas annual, edited by Will Goldston, is having a rapid sale. It is published by the Magician, Ltd., Robin's Hood-yard, London, at 6d.

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THE ERA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1913.

CHRISTMAS AGAIN.

Yet another Christmas! Once more the holly and the mistletoe, the presents and cards in the stationers' shops, the turkeys at the poulterers', the advertisements of pantomimes, the children home for the holidays! How familiar, how conventional it all is! In an age when every old institution is undermined, when every established arrangement is attacked, Christmas still holds its own against all comers.

The reason is that the joy is natural. When the EMPEROR AURELIAN instituted the Roman winter-solstice festival celebrated on Dec. 25 in connection with the worship of the sun-god MITHRA, he supplied a long-felt want; when the Christian Church adopted the date as the solemn anniversary of a sacred birth they were both responding to the impulse of rejoicing which seizes mankind when the worst of the winter is over, when we have turned the corner, and are on the upward path towards the sunshine and the spring.

It is encouraging to find that Christmas is not "going down," because, if it was, we might expect a similar fate for at least half of our public amusements. Essays on the intellectual drama are most of them written by intellectual people, and are only occasionally penned by the opposition party. It is the old story of the lion's portrait painted by a man; had the lion been the artist the result would have been different. Occasionally, as in the case of Mr. G. K. CHESTERTON, a writer of ability takes up the opposite side of the question; but, as a rule, the matter is discussed and decided by a different order of mind. Take, for instance, Mr. JOHN PALMER, whose book "The Future of the Theatre" has just been published by G. BELL AND SONS. Mr. PALMER is quite confident that the un-intellectual drama is doomed. The efforts of Mr. BERNARD SHAW, Mr. ST. JOHN HANKIN, and Mr. GALSWORTHY, he says, "have prepared for the English theatre an honourable future career, to be run in alliance with the life, letters, and national spirit of the English people." In other words, the public will become so refined that they will turn from fun, nonsense, broad jokes, and melodrama, and follow after analysis, propaganda, and pessimism in plays.

Frankly, we do not believe a word of it; and point to the popularity of Christmas in England as a support of our belief. Christmas is the high time of the average sensual man; and the average man is sensual; that is, influenced by the senses and not by the mind. The object aimed at professedly by philosophers is to make men happier. All the efforts of philanthropists to improve the housing, feeding, and hours of labour of the poor are directed to sensual, not intellectual results. Puritanism has given the adjective a bad name. There is no shame in it. We are animals first, and intellectuals afterwards; and the men who have been first-rate intellectuals and second-rate animals have always been profoundly miserable. A thinker-philosopher like CARLYLE, with a bad digestion, is a painful and pitiable being.

The art of the theatre must always be, as regards a great part of it, a vulgar art, in the sense in which the word is equivalent to "common." The superior person has never been a staunch playgoer. He thinks too much, and feels and enjoys too little. Christmas is an unpleasant time for the superior person. There are the pantomimes, which outrage him in every nerve—mere jumbles, as he says, of light and colour, dancing, and jokes. Yet they are undoubtedly popular. Why do people go to see them? Obviously because they like seeing them. Why do they "keep Christmas?" For the same reason.

The trouble with the advocates of the advanced school of plays and dramatists is that they overstate their case. If they were content with noting the existence and moderate success of the school they support, no one would contradict them. But when they talk, as Mr. SHAW did once, of the approaching commercial prosperity of IBSEN, one thinks of Sir HERBERT TREE, obliged to produce translations of "the Master's" plays at matinées, and not finding them pay well enough for "transference to the evening bill." Mr. BERNARD SHAW'S plays have been popular in exact proportion to the amount of "vulgarity"—viz., commonness, matter appealing to ordinary people—which he has introduced into them. Even his wonderful wit only draws the public when, as in "Fanny's First Play," it is united with the out-all-night and got-into-a-row business which has served as the foundation of so many riotous farces with the personality which made the fortune of "The Happy Land." No; as long as the English people keep up Christmas we may rest assured that they will never be anæmic, low-spirited, acid, introspective, or too serious. There will always be a minority, and a very considerable minority, endowed with these characteristics; but they will not be the public at large.

The playgoing public is larger than ever. It does not want worse fare than it has had in the past, but better. But it wants it cheaper, and it gets it. The most formidable rival of the theatre and the music hall is the cinematograph, which succeeds by its low prices as much as any other attraction. The success of "The Era" in the latter half of the present year is another case in point. Recognising that the sixpenny weekly theatrical paper was an anachronism, we tried the experiment of giving our readers a better paper at a penny. At one stroke we relinquished 5d. out of every 6d. which we had been receiving from the sale of the paper. With a jump that almost took away our breath, the advertisements went up by leaps and bounds, and the increase in the circulation staggered our printers. Now we have the largest circulation of any amusement journal in the kingdom. At the same time, far from our throwing overboard any of our old features that have proved their popularity in the past, we retained all these, and added several new ones. Recognising the greatly increased importance of the variety section of public amusements, we have given it even more attention than in former times it received from us. In order to encourage the art of playwriting we offered a prize of £100 for the best play sent to us by an outsider. In short, we have given the theatrical public more for less money. The reduction in our price has been accompanied by an increase in our matter, not a diminution. Our readers and our advertisers have appreciated this, and have supported us generously in 1913, as we know they will do for many a year. With gratitude and confidence, we wish them one and all

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

CHRISTMAS.

Old Father Christmas! yes, at his command,
A joyous note is struck throughout the land.
Sorrow and sadness slink silently away—
The Lord of misrule reigns at least one Day!
Hark, too! The bells ring out their merry peal,
And from glad homes the sounds of music steal.

Christmas! What memories that magic word recalls
Of revels held in old baronial halls;
The scenes depicted by a master pen
In glowing words that contrast now and then;
Of times long past when all the world was gay—
As cheery as a sunny summer's day;
The whispered vow, the soft responsive sigh,
The lovelight in a pensive maiden's eye—
Such things as these—ah me! in sober truth
Belong to romance and the days of youth.

Christmas! What pictures in the firelight's glow
It conjures up of landscapes white with snow,
That glistening 'neath the moon's pale beams,
Suggest odd fancies, strange, fantastic dreams
Of ghostly horsemen, who on coalblack steeds,
Like shadows flit along the snow-clad meads.

The Dickens spirit! Ah, could I invoke
The voice that every Yuletide blithely spoke
In ringing tones which cheered the hearts of men,
And in misfortune bade them hope again.
What cherished memories have we still of him
Who gave us Little Nell and Tiny Tim,
Caleb Plummer, Trotty Veck and Dot,
And many others who are in the plot.
'Twas Charity he preached in books that live—
Taught us with open heart and hand to give
To fellow creatures who in life's brief play
Have fought the fight, and fallen by the way.

Imagine, if you please, that I have donned
The Fairy's robes, and waved her magic wand
To such effect that under it's sweet spell,
For just awhile in Fairyland you dwell,
Convinced there's no such ugly thing as strife,
But only happiness, and love, and life.

"God bless us, every one!" said Little Tim!
And so, with glass filled to the very brim,
His gentle greeting from our lips shall fall—
"God bless the weak and poor! God bless us all!"

R. T. BAINES.

The members of the cast of "Oh! I Say!" at the Criterion are enjoying a well-deserved rest, but will resume work on Boxing afternoon. The 250th performance will be reached on Jan. 3.

The Quinlan Grand Opera Company, numbering 155 people, were booked to leave Sydney, Australia, on the 18th inst. for Vancouver, where they commence their Canadian tour. The whole of the transportation arrangements were made by Daw's Steamship Agency.

The secretary to the Quinlan Opera Company writes with regard to the recent references in the press that the E. Oswald Brooks Booking Agency was originally employed by the Quinlan Company to negotiate a Canadian tour, and to do certain advance and local work. At no time, he adds, had the Brooks Agency authority to contract on the company's behalf.

BENEVOLENCE AND BOTHERS.

By FRANK DESPREZ.

HOW THE A.B.F. IS WORKED.

"You must have a very pleasant time," said I to Mr. [illegible] in the comfortable-looking and commodious office in the Adelphi, "sitting here and counting out money and having benefits showered on your head by hundreds of unhappy mortals who are down on their luck."

"That is all you and the outside public know about it," he answers. "In the first place, the constant hearing of so much want and sorrow makes one [illegible] But the true tales of woe are nothing like so depressing as the false ones. Look at that," and he handed me an epistle, eloquently worded, and describing the writer's condition and misfortunes in most touching terms. "What do you think of it?"

"I think it is very sad reading. I see he sends an excellent reference."

"That letter of reference, sir," says Mr. Coltson, impressively, "is a forgery. And it is one of many that I receive."

"And you generally manage to detect them?"

"Almost invariably. Let me explain to you our system of working. An applicant for assistance, in order to receive it, must either be a contributor to the Fund or must send us a recommendation from a subscriber. He has to fill up also this," and Mr. Coltson hands me the following form of application:—

To the Actors' Benevolent Fund, 8, Adam-street, Strand, London, W.C.

C. I. Coltson, Secretary.

.....19

Name in full .....
Address .....
Age ..... Married or Single .....
Number of family dependent, with ages .....
.....
Time in profession .....
Actors to whom you are known .....
Date of beginning and end of last engagement .....
.....
Former engagements .....
Cause of application .....
Extent of assistance required as loan or gift.....
Have you written to the Profession for assistance?
.....
Have you been helped by the Fund? .....
Have you subscribed to the Fund? .....
State line of business .....
Have you relatives able to help you? .....

Then I send one of these to each member of our committee:—

DEAR SIR,

The favour of your attendance is particularly requested at a committee meeting of this Fund, to be held here on Thursday, ...

Below I give the names of those applying this week, and shall be much obliged if you will send me any information you may think likely to be useful to the committee.

"A separate letter of application and the written recommendation of a subscriber must be sent with the first form by the applicant. Now you see where the forgery comes in. The recommendation you have there is forged in the name of a favourite actress of the last generation. Of course, her signature and handwriting are perfectly familiar to me, so I at once detected the attempt at that imposture."

"I suppose, in those pigeon-holes of yours, you have letters from all your subscribers?"

"Yes, and I know most of their handwritings by heart."

"What a harvest the impostors must have reaped in the days before the A.B.F. was established!"

"A harvest indeed. Henry Irving used to tell me the Fund saved him £300 a year. And to other managers it was a boon, doing away, as it in a measure did, with the 'stage-door' subscriptions, which were a great nuisance, and, in the course of the year, mounted up to a considerable demand on the manager's purse. One idle rascal goes about cursing the Fund 'in heaps.' He considers it robbed him of his means of livelihood; for whereas he was able, before it was established, to earn a comfortable little income by piteous letters and sponging on stars, now he finds himself, like Othello, with his occupation, or, at any rate, its profits, gone. Then there are the intimidators. They try it on in another way. There are those who threaten suicide. One man writes to me that if I don't send him £2 10s. by return of post his body will be found to-morrow morning in the Serpentine. As he does not comply [illegible] our rules, I do not send him the cheque demanded; and the waters of the Serpentine are [illegible] of his corpse. There was one man, I remember, who was always threatening to hang himself. After relieving him several times, old Sam Johnson, one of our veteran committeemen, [illegible] 'Let's try him and see if he will.' And I am glad to say the threatener didn't. He still walks the earth, a much [illegible] but yet existing in the flesh."

"Do they threaten you much, personally?"

"Well, I have had my windows here broken, and I have had to lock people up; but, of course, that is part of the position. The worst of it is, one never knows when one of them may not take it into his head to carry out his threats. There are such a number of semi-insane people about. You remember Prince, the man that murdered poor Terriss?"

"Yes, he was sent to Broadmoor as insane."

"I can only say that he sat in the chair you are now occupying and demanded assistance with every evidence of sanity. Prince was a mechanic, and his mother lived in Glasgow. As he was 'no good' as an actor, we, after repeatedly relieving him, advised him to go back to his town and his trade. Instead of which, he went straight away and killed poor Terriss."

"You don't think he was insane?"

"I have my own opinion on that point. But here is a fact which may interest you. After Prince had been some time at Broadmoor, he wrote a letter to Sir Henry Irving which upset and distressed the great actor painfully. He consulted me, and I was able to make sure that the wretch should be, in future, prevented from writing letters of that sort from his comfortable place of retirement.

"I don't want you to think, however, that my duties chiefly consist in 'staving off' applications for relief. When I am convinced that they are genuine I do not hesitate, if the case is urgent, to take the responsibility of immediate action on myself. Here, for instance, is an urgent application," and he hands me a quiet, moderate epistle in which the writer, an actress, asks for a loan to enable her to travel to a certain place to fulfil an engagement.

"That person and that application I knew to be genuine, and I at once *wired* the amount asked for, knowing that it would be honourably returned. No, the only danger is that the generous kindness of the actor and actress may lead them away."

"What do you consider constitutes an 'actor' or 'actress'?"

"Well, we think they ought to have been on the stage for at least three years. If a man or woman is reduced to asking for charitable assistance after having been only a couple of years on the stage we consider that he or she must have mistaken his or her vocation, and had better seek a more congenial sphere of effort."

REPERTORY AT ST. JAMES'.

The repertory season at the St. James's, which is proving such a pronounced success that Miss Lilian McCarthy and Mr. Granville Barker have decided to continue it a little longer after they enter once more into possession of the Savoy Theatre, was further enriched on Wednesday night by the presentation of Mr. Alfred Sutro's translation of Maeterlinck's play,

"THE DEATH OF TINTAGILES."

Tintagiles ..... Miss Odette Goimbault
Ygraine ..... Miss Lilian McCarthy
Bellangère ..... Miss Vera Tschaikowsky
Aglovale ..... Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Servants ..... Mr. Herbert Hewetson, Mr. Baliol Holloway, Mr. Allan Jeayes

The piece, which lasts a bare half-hour, is a beautiful specimen of the poetry, mysticism, and extraordinary sense of atmosphere of the work of the Belgian poet. Published in 1894, it is admittedly the author's favourite, and in the estimation of many his best play. Produced by Mr. Granville Barker with that perfect sense of fitness that distinguishes all his productions, and gloriously acted by Miss Lilian McCarthy and a wonderful child-actress, Miss Odette Goimbault, it shines as a beautiful gem in a setting worthy of its beauty. Tintagiles is, we take it, an embodiment of childhood—loving, trusting, helpless, and "so young and so small." The sister, Ygraine, personifies the mother-soul of woman, who fights all, even death, the Great White Queen who dwells in the "Tower that Time does not touch," whose power is greater even than a mother's love. The three servants of the Queen are the three Fates, who spin and weave and cut the thread of life. In addition to the two artists already mentioned, the cast also included Miss Vera Tschaikowsky, who played excellently as the gentle, tearful sister, Bellangère, and Mr. H. O. Nicholson, who was a very impressive Aglovale. The three servants of the Queen were exceedingly well impersonated by Messrs. Herbert Hewetson, Baliol Holloway, and Allan Jeayes.

Maeterlinck's work was preceded by John Galsworthy's well-known piece,

"THE SILVER BOX."

John Barthwick, M.P. .... Mr. Arthur Whitby
Mrs. Barthwick ..... Miss Esmé Beringer
Jack Barthwick ..... Mr. Donald Calthrop
Mr. Roper ..... Mr. Ralph Hutton
Jones ..... Mr. Leon Quartermaine
Mrs. Jones ..... Miss Irene Rooke
Marlow ..... Mr. Hesketh Pearson
Wheeler ..... Miss Janet Ross Johnson
Miss Seddon ..... Miss Florence Harcourt
Snow ..... Mr. Allan Jeayes
A Police Magistrate .. Mr. Herbert Hewetson
An Unknown Lady..Miss Sydney Fairbrother
Livens ..... Mr. H. O. Nicholson
The Relieving Officer .... Mr. R. C. Harcourt
The Magistrate's Clerk .. ..Mr. J. F. Outram
The Usher ..... Mr. G. Jerome
A Policeman ..... Mr. W. Templeton

The deep irony and fine dramatic construction and characterisation of the piece are too well known to need repetition of praise. Miss Irene Rooke is exceedingly interesting as the charwoman, and appears, very curiously, to be less a woman than an embodiment of all the patient, long-suffering, resigned women that ever existed. Miss Sydney Fairbrother acts, as usual, with high intelligence, but hers is hardly the personality to suggest a follower of "the most ancient profession." It is not possible to suggest an improvement on Miss Esmé Beringer's very clever study of Mrs. Barthwick; as John Barthwick Mr. Arthur Whitby plays with sound humour, though he is inclined to become slightly farcical at times, a slight blemish on an excellent performance. Mr. Leon Quartermaine's Jones is remarkably clever—less brutal, but as human, as any Jones we have seen, a triumph of submersion of the personality of the actor in the character enacted. Mr. Donald Calthrop as Jack Barthwick might be a little more dissipated, and also a little more serious. A very finished piece of acting is contributed by Mr. Herbert Hewetson as a police magistrate, and as the detective Mr. Ralph Hutton plays with striking realism. Mr. Hesketh Pearson is a model of a well-trained servant, Miss Janet Ross Johnson is excellent as Wheeler, and Miss Florence Harcourt makes a good impression as Miss Seddon. Mr. H. O. Nicholson is most satisfactory as Livens, and Mr. Allan Jeayes shows sense of character as Snow. Mr. R. C. Harcourt is all that can be desired as the relieving officer; and the same can be said of Mr. J. F. Outram as the magistrate's clerk. Mr. G. Jerome is a capable usher, and Mr. W. Templeton makes an efficient policeman.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" REVIVED.

The heartiest laughter resounded through the auditorium of the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Saturday evening last, when "Charley's Aunt" reached the eve of her twenty-first birthday. Every language under the sun has told playlovers all over the world the story of the dear old lady from Brazil, where "the nuts come from," and its retelling is very timely in London at such a festive season. It was a more than usually interesting revival, too. Mr. Percy Crawford scored a remarkable success as Babs, and after so clever a performance is not likely to languish long in the provinces. Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, the daughter of the author of the farce, looked sweet in a wonderful gown, and took all hearts captive as Kitty Verdun. It was good to welcome so promising a young actor as Mr. Geoffrey Kerr, the son of Mr. Fred Kerr, who played Jack Chesney with all the breeziness possible. Mr. J. R. Crauford acted the kindly natured Indian officer with the requisite touch of heartiness and geniality. Mr. Geoffrey Gilbey made Charley Wykeham a lively and impressionable undergraduate, and the Brasset of Mr. Sydney Compton was as unperturbed and as sphinxlike as ever. Miss Ada Ferrar brought into strong relief the sly humour of Donna Lucia—an attractive impersonation; Miss Gladys Toft, who has a good voice, was not altogether happy in her management of it; and Miss Pauline Hugen made the most of Ela Delahay's confession to Babs. Mr. Frank Curzon spoke a few words of thanks on behalf of Mr. Brandon Thomas, who was not well enough to be present. "Charley's Aunt" was preceded by a one-act play, by Mr. Brandon Thomas, entitled

"MARUSA."

General Sakovski ....Mr. Drelincourt Odlum
Captain Rudivitch .....Mr. Sydney Compton
Major Shojoro .....Mr. Robertson Hare
Captain Loyama .....Mr. James Neville
Auguste Lowemeyer ..Mr. H. McKenzie Rogan
General's Orderly .....Mr. Percy Rogers
Marusa .....Miss Vivian Vanna

The scene is a bomb-proof shelter in the Russian lines during the Russo-Japanese war. The Japanese secret service officer, Major Shojoro, has a sweetheart named Marusa whose heart would have been wrung with grief had not the Russian soldiers fired in the air and saved her lover just as the Japanese relieving force comes to relieve the situation. But Marusa is a famous dancer and mime, and at the command of the Russian general she dramatically describes the war to some finely characteristic music by Mr. Edward Jones, and this is the main purpose of the playlet, which has but little plot. Miss Vivian Vanna's dancing as Marusa was most impressive. Mr. Robertson Hare did well as Major Shojoro; and Mr. Drelincourt Odlum was effective as General Sakovski.

ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART STUDENTS' THEATRE.

A momentous event in the life of the Academy of Dramatic Art occurred on Saturday last, when Lady Bancroft laid the foundation-stone of the Students' Theatre which is to be added to the institution. The new building is at the rear of the house at 62, Gower-street, which has so long served as the headquarters of the school, and is designed to hold about 300 people. The proscenium opening will measure 24ft., the full width of the stage 42ft., the full depth 34ft. Students of the Academy mustered in force to assist at the function, and many well-known actors and actresses braved the bleak December breeze.

Loud cheers greeted the appearance of Lady Bancroft and Sir Herbert Tree, who headed a small procession which issued from the house. Following on were Sir Squire Bancroft and Lady Alexander, Sir George Alexander and Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. E. S. Willard and Miss Winifred Emery. Among others present were Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Sir A. W. Pinero, Mr. Bernard Shaw, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Miss Kate Bishop, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Eadie, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Herbert Waring, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. Lechmere Worrall, Miss Jane Cooper, Mr. Fisher White, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. C. M. Lowne, Miss May Whitty, Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. A. E. Bendall, Mr. Wm. Poel, Mr. Frank Marshall, and Mr. C. F. Kearley, to whose firm the building is entrusted.

Lady Bancroft was presented with a lovely bouquet by Ethel McGlinshy, aged nine, the youngest student in the school.

Sir Herbert Tree said I am glad to see fairies and spring flowers about. (Laughter.) It is not unnatural indeed that the wintry blast should have transformed itself into a spring zephyr in order to waft hither Lady Bancroft. (Cheers.) It is my pleasant honour to bid you, dear Lady Bancroft, on behalf of the Council, a hearty welcome. It is, perhaps, the more appropriate that I should perform this office, as it was I who laid the modest foundation-stone from which arose this institution. (Cheers.) Luckily for the school, your distinguished husband, Sir Squire Bancroft, became our president, and he has taken a far more active and a far more beneficent share in the work of the school than I could possibly have done. Ever since the influential and devoted committee took this institution under its wing it has flourished apace. It is right and fitting that you, who have taken so active an interest in the development of this movement, should lay the first stone of this new theatre. That the name of Mabel Bancroft should be thus happily associated with the proposed building is indeed a most propitious omen. May a worthy and abiding temple of art arise at the fairy touch of your trowel, and be a service to the art which you have always adorned. (Cheers.)

Speaking in the clear and distinct tones that older theatregoers love so well, Lady Bancroft said: The performance of this ceremony to-day brings back to my remembrance—my affectionate remembrance—the launching of a little ship, not far from here, which I christened the Prince of Wales's Theatre. It all seems to me now like a very happy dream, as I look back through the long vista of time, and see, as in a vision, the steps which lead to fame and fortune, and which I mounted one by one, with determination to reach, if possible, the topmost rung of that very difficult ladder. Every step was hard to climb, and, of course, I encountered barriers on my way, but I was young, and had ever in my thoughts those inspiring words of Lord Lytton: "In the lexicon of youth there is no such word as fail." Courage and a strong will combined to push me on. At length, after many a heart pang, I reached the goal of my ambition.

I say all this as an incentive to the students of this Academy, to whom I am addressing myself. I want to impress upon you the necessity of goodwill and helpfulness towards each other, as well as courage and perseverance for yourselves. Without that beautiful feeling of *con amore*, comfortable advancement is almost impossible. (Applause.) There is room for everyone in the artistic world. If you have real talent it is quickly recognised, and nothing can hold you back.

We have already every reason to be proud of many young actors and actresses—former pupils who were taught and trained in this Academy—who now are holding important positions on the professional stage. (Cheers.)

You are to have a little theatre of your own, and that will help you to better realise the atmosphere, so to speak, of your art. I regard a *real* stage as a necessity. One cannot dissociate art in any form from its proper surroundings. For myself, so strong has been that feeling within me, that whenever I have visited even a country circus, the smell of the sawdust has created in me a courageous desire to mount a piebald horse and jump through a paper-hoop. (Laughter.) The realisation of my wish would doubtless have been my last public appearance, but I want to emphasise the fact that the artistic senses *must* be helped, as an incentive, to realise the situation, just as the war horse is roused by the sound of the bugle call.

Study hard, be proud of the profession you have chosen, and help one another up the steps of that difficult ladder. You have a clever, earnest, hard-working administrator—(loud cheers from the students)—and an accomplished staff of instructors, to advise and help you. Be steady, painstaking, and serious in your work. Strive to prove a credit to your teachers, uphold the dignity of your beautiful art; and of the theatre which will grow on this site, by artistic labour, goodwill and exemplary conduct. I lay this stone with every good and grateful wish of my heart for its prosperity, and I trust I may prove to be a mascot for its welfare.

Lady Bancroft tapped the stone with a silver trowel, saying: "I declare this stone well and truly laid." There were three cheers for Sir Herbert Tree, three more for Lady Bancroft, and yet another for Sir Squire Bancroft, and the interesting ceremony ended.

The inscription on the stone reads: "This stone was laid by Lady Bancroft on Saturday, 20th Dec., 1913." Then follow the names of the Council of the Academy of Dramatic Art: Sir Squire Bancroft (president), Sir J. M. Barrie, Bt., Sir John Hare, Sir Arthur Pinero, Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Sir George Alexander, Sir Johnstone Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. George Bernard Shaw, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and the Administrator (Mr. Kenneth R. Barnes).

INVERTED LAUGHTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Whilst many clever people are endeavouring even to this day to discover hidden meanings in Ibsen's brilliant farce, "The Wild Duck," might one be permitted to inquire how much of his mode of inverted laughter Mr. G. B. Shaw acquired from the methods of this play, and whether Ibsen was not the true pioneer of humour of this kind?—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HANNAN.

London, Dec. 10.

A performance of "The Magistrate" was given on Saturday at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, before the Mayor and Mayoress and an appreciative audience, in aid of the Commercial Travellers' Schools and Benevolent Institution.

VARIETY GOSSIP

In our issue of Dec. 3 we referred to the sad case of Miss Topsy Sinden, of the Gaiety, Empire, and Daly's fame, who when she was playing principal girl in the pantomime at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, early in the year was accidentally kicked while dancing. Unfortunately, that injury grew worse, and nearly four months ago an operation was successfully performed by Sir Arbuthnot Lane at Guy's. That gentleman has assured her that she will dance as well as ever she has done. But some time must elapse, and all her savings are gone.

Her distress is so great that we make an earnest appeal at this season of goodwill to the many readers of our paper who know and esteem a very popular actress and dancer who has met with such unmerited misfortune, to subscribe to the fund which we are starting in our columns next week. Cheques and postal orders for the Topsy Sinden Fund should be sent to Mr. Alfred Barnard, "The Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, who will publish the first list of subscriptions in our next issue. The project has the warm support of Miss Gladys Cooper, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. James Welch, Mr. Jimmie Glover, Mr. Louis Meyer, the directors of the Empire, and the directors of "The Era."

At the Oxford on Monday next Mr. Ernest Rolls will present his very latest invention in the form of "A Merry Musical Dream," for which the entire music has been written by Max Darewski.

Prince George, fourth son of the King and Queen, who came to town from Broadstairs on Thursday, spent his birthday at Buckingham Palace on Saturday. Accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Henry, and attended by Mr. Hansell, he celebrated the occasion by witnessing the afternoon performance at the Palace Theatre. He was delighted with Oswald Williams.

The executors of Tom Shaw, deceased, beg to notify managers and artistes that Mr. Tom Rice will, by mutual arrangement, sever his connection with the above agency as and from Jan. 26, 1914. Mr. Richard Carr, late of the contract department of Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd., will take up the position from the above date as general booking manager for Tom Shaw and Co.

Mr. Carr has had 10 years' experience with Moss' Empires, Ltd. All artistes known to him may forward full list of bookings, &c., on and after Dec. 29.

Mr. and Mrs. Haydn Wood (Miss Dorothy Court) have accepted a tour of the music halls with the Variety Theatres Controlling Company, and open at the Hippodrome, Birmingham, on Monday next, the 29th. Mr. Haydn Wood is the well-known violinist and composer. Several popular successes bear his name, notably, "Bird of Love Divine." Among his more serious works is a pianoforte concerto, which the London Symphony Orchestra included in the programme of one of their last season's symphony concerts.

Miss Dorothy Court, who was a pupil of Albert Visetti, played the principal soprano parts in Gilbert and Sullivan Opera during the last revivals at the Savoy, and has since toured Australasia as leading lady in the late J. C. Williamson's productions. The accompanist is Miss Ethel Robinson. Such an artistic musical turn will be very welcome, and I hope to hear Mr. and Mrs. Haydn Wood in London shortly.

Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux, on behalf of the Alhambra Company, have just entered into a contract with the Moss' Empires for a starring tour of "Keep Smiling!" throughout the big cities of Great Britain. The production, which starts in February next, will include certain features from the last two Alhambra revues—as well as many scenes—notably the Main Staircase—from "Keep Smiling!"

Captain Woodward wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of date lists from the following artistes: Miss Dorla, Miss Frederica, Miss Tudora, Captain Graham, Captain Permain, Mr. William Tudor. These, with others, will be duly placed before the two committees dealing with the question, and further particulars will be announced in these columns, or sent direct. Further lists of dates from animal trainers are requested, with a short written note of invitation to the Protection Society inviting inspection of their animals, methods of training, and paraphernalia used in their performances. Communications may now be addressed to Messrs. Berol and Woodward, 10, Leicester-place, London, W.

Praise is due to Miss Rose Hamilton for so successfully assuming Miss Maidie Hope's part of Valerie in "The Gay Lothario" last week upon two days' notice. I saw Miss Hamilton's performance myself on Monday, and was pleased to find that such a clever and attractive artiste has found a part so suited to her undoubted abilities. It is indicative of her success that a special part has been written for her in the New Empire revue, and that she has been engaged to understudy Miss Hope in the same production.

At the invitation of Mr. J. Christie, the resident-manager of the Bristol Hippodrome, a large number of visitors were entertained at the theatre on Friday afternoon, the occasion being the anniversary of the opening of the building. Something of a novelty awaited the guests after the musical selections, under the direction of Mr. Howard Galpin, for, under the personal direction of Mr. Bertie Shelton, the water spectacle, entitled "The Flood," was produced for the first time in Bristol. Repeated outbursts of applause greeted the spectacle, which should prove a big draw during the Christmas holidays. Mr. J. Christie, on behalf of Mr. Oswald Stoll, briefly thanked the large crowd of guests for their attendance.

Mr. Harry Bawn is giving to-day a special matinée of "Robinson Crusoe" to 2,000 of Edmonton's poorest children. It is also Mr. Bawn's intention, if possible, to present each child with a parcel containing oranges, apples, bread, chocolate, toys, &c. Mr. Bawn has the support of Col. Bowles, J.P., late M.P. for the district; Mr. Pretyman Newman, M.P.; the Rev. Preb. A. B. Sanders, M.A., and several other well-known gentlemen. This matinée will be the means of bringing cheer into the lives of many youngsters who would otherwise spend a dreary Christmas.

Mlle. Palia and her Rollicking Gipsies are working a tour of the Syndicate halls in a miniature operetta, entitled "The Lucky Tzigane." The success achieved by this production at the Metropolitan last week is continued this at the Euston. Possessing a plot on the lines of a fairy tale, and resembling in several respects a modern pantomime with the low comedy deleted, "The Lucky Tzigane" serves to introduce a number of charming girls, several graceful dances, and a musical score far above the average.

Messrs. Fred and Horace Reeves' production, "Go Ahead!" will be seen in London at the Victoria Palace on March 2. It will be produced under the direction of Robert Reilly and Herbert La Martine.

The Queen's, Poplar, is looking very radiant, having undergone a thorough embellishment. There are new and beautiful carpets and tapestries, more comfortable and luxurious seating, and redecoration of a very attractive nature.

F. Warden-Reed has written and composed a song entitled "You do not know how much I love," which will be featured in pantomime by Miss Lola Morris at Warrington.

Miss Nellie Norway closes her successful South African tour on Saturday, and leaves Capetown on Monday for Southampton. Miss Norway's refined hand-bell solos have been much appreciated all through the various countries she has visited. She reopens with Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant at St. George's Hall, on Feb. 9, for another eight weeks' season.

A marriage has been arranged between Lallie Forsyth and Clifton Boyne, who have been in South Africa, and are now touring Australasia with "A Sister to Assist 'Er" and "Jack the Rat." The event will take place on their return to England early next year.

Miss Juliet will make her first appearance in her unique characterisations in this country at the Palace, Manchester, on Jan. 5, 1914, with the Palace Theatre, London, to follow. This extremely clever young lady is the first of the American acts that were secured by Mr. George Peel whilst in New York a few weeks ago.

An important side to the existing revue craze has, as far as I am aware, escaped the attention of those who have discussed the matter from a professional standpoint. When one learns that in some of the larger revues over a hundred girls are employed as chorus, show ladies, and for small parts, and that at the present time practically any girl possessing a few good looks, plenty of self-confidence, and, not infrequently, no experience, is readily engaged for productions of this character, one cannot regard the situation as an unalloyed blessing.

If the revue has come to stay, one might find some small consolation in the fact that the stimulus created in this direction would be a small compensation for the disaster it has brought to other branches of the profession. But the lasting popularity of the revue—as it is constituted at present—is exceedingly doubtful, and, in the event of its decline, the ranks of unemployed choristers will receive such reinforcements as to render the position even more precarious than it was a year ago.

Good business was the rule at the Margate Hippodrome last week, when Miss Helena Millais paid her first visit there in her successful sketch, "Silver Creek." Miss Millais is well known locally, and was the recipient of some beautiful baskets and bouquets during the week, two of the most charming coming from the Mayor and Mayoress, who witnessed the sketch on Friday evening, and Mr. Leon Adutt, the ex-Mayor of Margate, who occupied a box on the previous night.

Death took place, on Dec. 15, after a short illness, of Miss Millie Glinka, at the age of fifty-eight, at the Isleworth Infirmary, to which the deceased lady was transferred from that splendid Institution, the Music Hall Benevolent Home, Twickenham, where she received every care and attention. Miss Millie Glinka (Miss Hawkin) was originally one of the celebrated Circassian Musical Glinka Family (three in number)—Millie, Oscar, and Nadia (since dead), the only one now remaining being Oscar (William). They appeared some twenty years ago at London's principal halls and the provinces, and the great cities of Europe. They also toured with the late Charles Du Val, and were with him at the Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, Drury Lane Theatre, and for many years with Mr. J. M. Morris (the English Barnum), proprietor of the Aztecs (since dead).

The funeral took place on Friday last, the 19th, at the Old Cemetery, Twickenham, in the grounds of the M.H.B.I. There were present at the graveside numerous friends and relations, including Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hawkin, Mr. William Hawkin (brothers and sister-in-law of the deceased), Miss Nellie Barnett, Mr. Tom Callaghan, Mr. Montague J. Norman, Mr. John Lodge, L.C.C., and some of the old folks from the Institution. There were many floral tributes from many old friends in the profession who knew her years ago. The funeral arrangements were well carried out by W. R. Dunkley.

Having been closed for a fortnight, the Southampton Hippodrome was re-opened on Monday as spick-and-span as a new house. The renovation has indeed been very thorough, and regular patrons will be surprised to find how much has been done in so short a time. One of the most noticeable improvements is in the approach of the circle; the staircase has been re-modelled, and the walls now have a rich panelling of oak. Another conspicuous change presents itself in the proscenium arch, where there are now open panels, from which will radiate the beams of four electric lights of 400 candle power each.

The prevailing tones of the colour scheme of the decorations are gold, cream, and oak. An impression of increased cosiness has thus been imparted to the auditorium, and the electric lighting fittings having all been renewed, the beauty of the embellishments will be the more clearly revealed. The pit has been effectively improved by a new treatment of the walls, and in no part of the house has trouble or expense been spared in ensuring comfort.

The tragic death of the Great Lafayette in the Empire Theatre fire in Edinburgh in May, 1911, was recalled on Friday in the Chancery Division. An application was made by a creditor for the administration of the estate of deceased, who died intestate. Mr. Lionel Benson, who represented the defendant, stated that he did not wish it to be taken that he consented to the appointment. He left it to his Lordship to decide. His Lordship (Mr. Justice Astbury) made an order appointing a receiver.

Miss Jennie Hartley, Frank Le Dent, Camp and Critic, the Sisters Carina, and the Harley Boys sailed last Saturday per R.M.S. Saxon to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd. Next Saturday Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch the Jackson Family, Guest and Newlyn, Russell Carr, Vera Rochdale, and Belle and Austin for the same tour.

With many others, I have received wedding cake from Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Vernon, who were married last Thursday, and are now in Switzerland enjoying winter sports. It is said that the bridegroom will write another play during his honeymoon. It will have to be sentimental comedy, and up to the present the author has done his best work in stronger dramatic fare.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Chirgwin and family are spending their Christmas at Cockleridge, Bigbury-on-Sea, South Devon.

Mlle. Lydia Kyasht concluded her engagement at the Empire on Friday, and from Saturday the name part in "Titania" has been played by Miss Phyllis Bedells.

Mlle. Lydia Kyasht left Euston at noon on Saturday to join the Campania for New York. She said she wanted to thank the English people, and give them her "kind regards," adding, "I was touched to the heart by the great reception the Empire audience gave me last night. My old friends!"

Mlle. Kyasht travelled with her husband, M. Ragosin, and amongst those on the platform were M. Anatole Tolstopiatoff (a Commander in the Russian Imperial Fleet). She will spend three months in the United States. The Campania is not due at New York until Friday, so that Christmas will be spent at sea.

Mr. John Lawson is proving a powerful magnet at the Metropolitan this week. The crowded state of the house on Monday must have been very gratifying to Mr. Lawson, who has become in the Edgware-road a "people's idol."

Mr. Cliff Ryland sends me kindest Christmas wishes from Cape Town. He and his son, Sydney, opened there at the beginning of the month, and both achieved a big success.

My friend, E. A. Pickering, whom everybody used to be so glad to see at the Palace and the Alhambra, writes me that he has resigned the management of the Empire Palace, Johannesburg, and that he finishes up there in the New Year. He is having a little dash on his own account. He hopes to be in London about June next.

Pick's dash on his own means briefly that he has combined forces with Messrs. Holloway and White for the purpose of arranging regular tours throughout South Africa from Capetown to the Zambesi.

In the report of the annual dinner of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund, which appeared in "The Era" of Dec. 10, it was stated that Mrs. Boganny was present. We have received a letter from Mrs. Betsy Boganny, saying that she was in Birmingham at the time, and asking us to correct the statement. The list of names was supplied to us from an official source.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zola will land at Tilbury from India on Jan. 3. Mr. Zola writes from the Excelsior Theatre, Bombay, Dec. 6:—"I sold up my home for this so-called long engagement, but my wife and self will land homeless and penniless. I am out from Jan. 3 to March 22. This is sad news."

After an absence of two years, the merry and bright Miss Kittee Rayburn returns to the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, to play principal boy for the fourth year at that house, where she has always been so immensely popular. She has been specially engaged by Mr. Wentworth Croke to take the part of Ganem in "The Forty Thieves." This is one of the cheeriest characters in pantomime, and should fit Miss Kittee like the proverbial glove.

"Oh! what a surprise!" Mr. Charles Coborn, on returning home from business the other evening, found awaiting him a small parcel addressed in an unknown handwriting. On investigation it turned out to be an autograph copy of Sir Herbert Tree's grand autumn production, "Thoughts and After-thoughts"—a graceful acknowledgment from the distinguished author of Mr. Coborn's note of congratulation to him on the occasion of his birthday. Mr. Coborn is at present fulfilling engagements with the London Theatres of Variety, Ltd.

On Saturday evening the old folk at "Brinsworth" were given a most pleasant entertainment, kindly arranged by Miss Violet Folland. Mr. Adrian Hadley, the well-known reciter, came down and gave a wonderfully impressive reading of Charles Dickens's famous "Christmas Carol," in which he displayed much elocutionary ability and force. Mr. J. Neat, the popular composer, introduced with appropriateness certain incidental music, which added not a little to the effect, and during the intervals, twelve of the choristers from All Saints', Twickenham (under Mr. Ramsay, the organist), sang well-known Christmas carols delightfully. It is worthy of note that this reading of the "greatest Christmas sermon," as Dean Stanley called it, was given exactly seventy years ago to a day since the first publication of the book in 1843.

Mr. C. Douglas Stuart expressed the sincere thanks of the company to Mr. Harley, Mr. Neat, and the choir, and the Rev. C. Camplin Cogan, hon. chaplain to the Institution and vicar of All Saints', who was present with his wife, seconded the vote of thanks, Mr. Billy West, on behalf of the inmates, also speaking. The committee of the Fund are sincerely obliged to Miss Folland, Mr. Hadley, and Mr. Neat for their kind thought, and for giving the old folk so much pleasure.

Mr. Eustace Gray and Mr. Chris Marner kindly invited all the old folk from the Institution and branch, numbering twenty-eight, to the first performance this season of the Palladium Minstrels on Monday afternoon, after which a little dinner was given them by the committee of the Benevolent Fund at Voigt's Restaurant, at which Mr. Chas. Austin presided, supported by Mr. Joe Elvin and Mr. Eugene Stratton.

An injunction restraining Mr. Ben Nathan, formerly general manager of the London Opera House Company, Ltd., from disclosing confidential information relating to the business of the company pending the trial of an action, was discharged by the Appeal Court on Saturday on Mr. Nathan's counsel giving an undertaking in the terms of the order he appealed from, Mr. Nathan to pay the costs of the appeal. His counsel said the injunction restrained Mr. Nathan from doing what he had not done, and had no intention of doing.

The latest recruit to the variety stage is Miss Ivy Cooper, who proposes to show London some native dances, amongst them being the Pir dance, as it could be done. Miss Cooper, who hails from Australia, is a granddaughter of J. B. Watson, the Bendigonian millionaire, and J. Cooper, the wealthy Sydney magnate.

I have to acknowledge from many of my friends in the profession kind greetings and remembrances that have come to me from all parts of the United Kingdom and from the Colonies. To their happy messages of goodwill to me and mine I would reply—

A Christmas spent in merriment
I trust the gods may send you;
And when you quaff, or joke, or laugh,
The happiest thoughts attend you.

THE PILGRIM.

["The Era" has a larger circulation than that of any other theatrical or variety journal published in the United Kingdom.]

THE "SPOT LIGHT."

BY THE SCRUTINEER.

IS "TIPPING" NECESSARY?

Time was when this question of the tipping of the various folk connected with the back (and sometimes front) of the house was at fever heat. Meetings were held, and much ink was used in pointing out the hardship entailed on performers by this "blackmail" on Saturday night. In many cases we must admit that this is the only word for it, and in others we regret it is used by artistes when they have partially succeeded in evading their financial obligations "for services rendered." It must be remembered that "tipping" exists in the majority of the walks of life, and as such has become an established custom to us all. Thus we start with an accepted basis. The distinction between the tipping in the commercial world and that of the vaudeville is that the latter is

COMPULSORY

and an absolute necessity. Moreover, it is practised on a much larger scale, and the sufferers in the main are the smaller artistes. As in all cases of blackmail the practiser is a student of human nature, and women and folk new to the hall and perhaps to the business find that the safest and easiest way is the line of least resistance—to "tip." Now, it may be strongly denied that this is so, and our managerial friends no doubt will retaliate with the remark that were this so someone more bold than the rest would have complained of this harsh treatment. For their information we will give several instances of how the tax is levied and penalties incurred by its evasion.

It is a notorious fact that the scenic furniture and "property" arrangements in many of our theatres of varieties are sadly lacking in elementary necessaries; but, notwithstanding this, the manager and proprietor expect the stage to be dressed equal to that of the best-equipped house in the country. That it eventually presents a decent appearance is due entirely to the system of blackmail levied on the performer through the agency of the various departments responsible for the stage setting. An ordinary chamber set with a fireplace is required, furniture, sideboard and rugs. Here the act has two chances of getting bitten. We have personally experienced the trouble of ferreting about the scene dock, and after repeated questioning getting the final elucidation that our requirements were obtainable, after having done the preliminary "palming" trick. The departments responsible were determined to withhold the scene, firstly from a monetary point of view, and, secondly, because the use of some other set would have meant less trouble in the striking and setting. The fireplace is always a source of lucrativeness to the property and electric departments, as also the light cues.

SUNDAY VENDETTAS.

We have experienced the furniture "hold up" in many forms, always with the certainty of an eventual win against ourselves, until at last in sheer desperation and a reckless regard for the consequences we ventured to work with a variegated assortment that brought the manager round in hot haste for an explanation. The result was of benefit to others, as there and then he ordered that a like thing should happen no more, and that theatre at least was the better for the object lesson. He had consistently refused to get any furniture, and those behind had to make up the deficiency by blackmailing the performer. At another house the whole of the furniture was the property of the stage-manager, and he made a weekly levy on all and sundry.

The conjurer and all acts who have delicate properties are strong believers in the necessity of tipping as a primary insurance of their goods and chattels, and also as a safeguard against any untoward accident to any of their tricks whilst working, owing to someone having "slightly" disarranged them whilst in the act of stage setting. In fact, the tipping by all workers with such properties ensures that some care will be taken of their things, even though they be stored in the darkest part of the stage. We remember once a beautiful electric fit-up, costing many pounds, suffering an accident one night whilst the act was working. The wires fused and a miniature fire started. Apart from the trouble with the management over the risk of burning down the theatre the artiste had his property seriously damaged. No one knew how it happened, but it afterwards leaked out that the electrician was a brother of the one at the last town, where there had been a difference of opinion as to the amount of the Saturday night tip. The friend of the dissatisfied employee is the baggage man, and we are certain that many of the breakages found on a Monday morning is the effect of the Sunday vendetta of the dissatisfied.

NO CURE.

There is no cure for the "tipping" evil, or, shall we say, necessity, as far as certain acts are concerned. Tipping, as we understand it, is the financial expression of thanks for satisfaction given. Thus, if the electrician works all the light cues well; if the stage-manager has had the stage set to one's satisfaction and seen that all necessary requirements as far as possible have been attended to; in fact, if the staff who individually have to handle any special duties for which they are paid by the management to one's satisfaction, have done so without the apparent hope of remuneration, it is perfectly permissible and perfectly right to "tip." This, however, is in contradistinction to that part of the business, which wrongly comes under the same heading, namely, the payment "for services rendered"—such as the knock at a door, the ringing of a bell, or the shouts "off" at a given cue. Likewise, the manipulation of effects, such as glass crashes, tooting of horns, springing of "trick" lines, or even assisting in the act in the house or other uniform in full view of the audience. All these services can in no way be looked upon as within the scope of their nightly employment, and rightly come under the head of salary of an assistant, and it is wrong on the part of the performer to ask these men to do these things and then at the end of the week offer them a few pence as a "tip" by way of recompense. To our own knowledge, some performers have an entire misconception of their rights in these matters, and frequently a great deal of bad feeling between stage hand and artiste is bred in this manner. We will not discuss the economic condition of the stage hand as regards salary, but it has been an invariable custom to inform stage managers when applying for work that the house pays so much and the "tips" amount to so much. One can quite realise the position of the stage-manager when the latter does not total anyway near the amount quoted. Some turns are entirely independent of anyone, yet, nevertheless, they have to run the gauntlet of remarks that are as unnecessary as they are uncalled for, and fear of trouble on a return week often compels the opening of the treasury envelope to satisfy their demands.

There is one person, however, who does deserve some consideration, and that is the dresser. Long hours and hard work in the day time as a cleaner, with the extra work at night supplementing her few shillings dressing the various ladies, merit recognition. Fifteen hours and more a day these women work, and sometimes the extra night pay from this source does not amount to five or six shillings.

On the whole, we suppose that the thing at fault is the economic system which allows people to be engaged at a certain salary, which is based upon expectations of the generosity of others. To the performer it appears in the nature of an extortion, while to the "stage hands" it is a matter of absolute necessity, and, as usual, the performer foots the bill.

PALLADIUM MINSTRELS RETURN.

The merry, melodious men who have earned fame as the Palladium Minstrels began a Christmas season at that popular establishment on Monday afternoon, and received a warm welcome from a crowded house. Many old favourites figure in the semi-circle, in which Mr. Chas. Maynard Brown again occupies the proud position of interlocutor.

The cornermen are headed by Mr. Johnny Danvers, in himself a host of humour. He had a droll song in "The bogie man," and his jests kept the house in hearty laughter. Uncle Mack was also to the fore with "It wasn't his turn to laugh," which, of course, had the opposite effect on the audience, and in "The deacon's Sunday mule" Mr. George Snow made good his claim as a comedian. "My Southern maid" gave Mr. Charles Jerome opportunity to score, of which he fully availed himself.

Encores were frequent throughout, Master Leonard Hawke, who revealed the possession of a lovely voice in "Bird of love divine," having to give three. Mr. Wynne Evans warbled "Come to me!" tunefully. Mr. Ernest Pitt sang "Hush me to dreams" in his usual cultivated style, and Mr. Arthur C. Halle and Mr. F. Pestor also contributed to the first part, of which "The Pilgrims' chorus," from "Tannhäuser," played by the Palladium Banjo Band, was a most enjoyable item.

Sketches formed the feature of the second part, which opened with the plantation sketch, "Granny Grump's Birthday," with Mr. Johnny Danvers in the character of Jim, the "Lily." It was capital fooling, and aroused peals of laughter. Fun also characterised the sketch, "Southern Justice," in which Mr. C. Maynard Brown was the judge, and had the support of the chief comedians during the droll proceedings. A big-boot dance by Carl Muller also proved very acceptable. The choruses were rendered with all the customary spirit and vigour.

Mr. C. C. Bartram, Mr. Gumpertz' European representative, is accompanying him on his present tour, which may be extended to Egypt and Somaliland, with a view to securing a native village for next summer at Coney Island.

Mr. Ted Hanley, who is well known as Alec Hurley's brother, and who possesses the copyright of the late comedian's popular songs, "The toy," "When we has a row," and "I ain't nobody in perticklar," will be shortly singing his late brother's songs on the halls.

Mona Garrick, the impersonator, and Ethel Bourne, the contralto vocalist, accompanied by their mother, sail on Saturday next on the Carmania from Liverpool to New York, where they play on Jan. 5 for William Morris. They have been engaged for the Harry Lauder tour.

The appeal of the editor of the "Islington Daily Gazette" has resulted in sufficient contributions being sent in to provide 11,500 dinners for the poor of Islington. The distribution of the dinners will take place this evening (Wednesday) at Collins's Music Hall.

Miss Marie Bereeford wishes to thank Mr. F. J. Little for kindly releasing her at such short notice from playing principal boy for him at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool. The reason Miss Bereeford was unable to play was owing to her mother's very serious illness.

With the arrival from America of Babette, the cast of the new Empire revue to be produced on Jan. 1 is completed. Babette, better known as "The Pet of New York," will appear in three special "numbers," in one of which she will be associated with Mr. Julian Alfred.

The London Vaudeville Agency (Messrs. Goldstein and Allen) have arranged to book Mr. Joe Peterman's new revue, which, I understand, will open in the third week in January with a very strong cast. The same agency are looking after the business of the Mardo Trio, who opened at the Empire on Monday evening.

Miss Lydia Rachel, who appeared in Mr. Chas. Frohman's production of "Trelawny of the Wells," at the Empire Theatre, New York, and with Miss Billie Burke in "'Mind the Paint' Girl" at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, has in active rehearsal, and will shortly present at a West End variety house, a new farcical sketch entitled "Bilking a Burglar," specially written for her by Mr. Harry Norton, who will produce and play in it.

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YOUR'E MY BABY

TAKE ME IN YOUR ARMS AND SAY YOU LOVE ME

WHEN I LOST YOU

WHO'LL PLAY PUSS-IN-THE-CORNER?

SOME-DAY

I'M COMING BACK TO BONNIE SCOTLAND

SNOOKY OOKUMS

WHEN THE MIDNIGHT CHOO-CHOO LEAVES FOR ALABAM

ON THE MISSISSIPPI

THAT RAGGEDY RAG **SOME BOY**

THE WAY THE WIND BLOWS

MY LITTLE PERSIAN ROSE

WHAT A GAME IT IS, WOW! WOW!!

HELLO! WHO'S YOUR LADY FRIEND? &c., &c.

WITH THE ABOVE NON-STOP SENSATIONS

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SONG ECHOES FROM SCOTIA.

Five of the greatest song-successes ever heard in Scottish pantomime are the big hits in the Grand, Glasgow, pantomime, viz.:—"When love creeps in your heart," most exquisitely rendered by Miss May Beatty; Miss Ivey Roze's triumph, "Hey, ho, can't you hear the steamer?"; "Sing us a song of bonnie Scotland," sung by Miss Winifred Barr; "I want the whole world to know you're my girl," sung by Anthony Gordon; and "Who killed ragtime?" the concerted hit of the show, as rendered by the principals of the pantomime, including Mr. Fred Kitchen.

Mr. Tom Lewis, writing the Star Company from H.M. Theatre, Dundee, says: "Pleased to report all your songs are big successes. The numbers of the Star Company are the star numbers of the show, as you will see by the following list: 'Hey, ho, can't you hear the steamer?' sung by Miss Cissie Thompson; 'All the girls are lovely by the seaside,' sung by Reg. Edwards; 'When love creeps in your heart,' sung by Miss Daisy Manning; 'That ripping rag,' sung by Miss Felicia Firmin; 'My Lady Dainty,' danced by Miss Lily Hayes; and 'Popsy Wopsy.' All the above are big encores and the hits of the show."

Edinburgh is redolent of the songs of the Star Company just now. At the Royal, Miss Nellie Wigley has made a stupendous success with "When love creeps in your heart," and the ubiquitous "Who killed ragtime?" is a furore as sung by the clever comedians headed by Mr. Marriott Edgar. "Sticks and stones" is also a very great hit as rendered by Mr. Edgar. Mr. Will Gane is very successful with "All the girls are lovely by the seaside." At the King's Miss Nancy Vivian is acclaimed to the echo for her renderings of "When love creeps in your heart" and "Popsy Wopsy," while Miss Ivy Proudfoote is equally successful with "Hey, ho, can't you hear the steamer?"

Miss Nora Bird has a great winner at the Prince's, Glasgow, with "When love creeps in your heart," and at the same theatre Miss Josie Delaine scores heavily with "Hey, ho, can't you hear the steamer?" and Miss Rita Halkett, with "Make your mind up, Maggie Mackenzie." Several other Star songs are very popular in this fine production.

At H.M., Aberdeen, Miss Edna Morgan has scored a wonderful success with "When love creeps in your heart," and she also makes a big hit with "That ripping rag." Another fine Star number that she has just introduced with most felicitous results is "Sing us a song of bonnie Scotland." Scotch Kelly has made a pronounced hit with "Make up your mind, Maggie Mackenzie," which is encored again and again at every performance. All of these are Star numbers of the first water.

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WHEN LOVE CREEPS IN YOUR HEART.

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HEY! HO! CAN'T YOU HEAR THE STEAMER?

POPSY WOPSY.

SING US A SONG OF BONNIE SCOTLAND.

WHO KILLED RAGTIME?

I WANT THE WHOLE WORLD TO KNOW.

(You're My Girl.)

EVERYBODY'S DOING IT AT THE SEASIDE.

MAGGIE MACKENZIE.

ALL THE GIRLS ARE LOVELY BY THE SEASIDE.

STICKS AND STONES.

WHOA! THE PICCADILLY FARM.

THAT RIPPING RAG.

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"ALWAYS TELL YOUR WIFE."

Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks returned to the Coliseum on Monday, the popular artistes appearing in a new farce by E. Temple Thurston, entitled "Always Tell Your Wife." The scene is the bedroom of a young couple, and at the rising of the curtain Jim, the husband, greatly agitated, comes in in evening dress, over which he hastily dons a suit of pyjamas. Simulating a bad cold, as he has an appointment with an old flame, and does not wish to accompany his wife, Mabel, out to dinner, Jim has evidently announced his intention of at once retiring to bed, intending as soon as his wife has departed to hurry away to his appointment. But answering the telephone during his absence, charming Mabel learns the horrid truth, and, tearfully relating the tale to the lady friend with whom she was to dine, is told to cheer up and teach her hubby a lesson. Reassured also that he no longer has any affection for the old love, and that it is a case of blackmail, Mabel at once sets about making things decidedly hot for Jim. She will cure his cold! And, ordering boiling water, accompanied by a tin of Coleman's, Jim is forced to immerse his extremities, envelop himself in blankets, and get into bed. Then the wife declares her intention of departing, and, once outside the door, Jim hops out of bed and prepares for flight. But Mabel again appears, with a fresh remedy, and Jim suffers further agonies. This is repeated, until at last, learning that the game is up, and that his dear little wife has completely tricked him—and also intimated to the other lady that the expected supper will be a very disappointing affair—the couple decide to go out to dinner together. There are many humorous situations and funny lines in the play, which is very happily acted by Miss Terriss, a most engaging and delightfully natural young wife, the mercurial Mr. Hicks comically depicting the deceits and embarrasements of the husband. "Always Tell Your Wife" had a very cordial reception.

"SIX WEEKS HENCE."

A New Scotch Sketch, Written by Walter Roy, Produced for the First Time at the Empire, Glasgow, on Monday, Dec. 15.

John Robinson .....Mr. Walter Roy
Sandy Wilson .....Mr. Joseph Barker
Jean Robinson .....Miss Carrie Glen

This admirably written little play received an excellent send-off at its initial performance. The author has cleverly blended the humour and pathos, and the result is a clever transcript from life. Sandy Wilson, a young grocer and the son of a widow, is deeply in love with Jean Robinson, the daughter of his employer, but is afraid that his aspirations may not be so favourably viewed by old Robinson as they are by the daughter. However, after several futile attempts to state his case, he manages his point, and is more than astonished to find that while he has been assiduously seeking the hand of Jean the old grocer has been paying attention to Sandy's widowed mother, with the result that two weddings are announced to take place "six weeks hence." The sketch will form a welcome addition to any programme.

SHEFFIELD WINTER CARNIVAL.

Following on the lines of the annual World's Fair at "Merrie Islington," a grand Carnival and Fun City was opened in Sheffield with great éclat last week. The venue is the colossal Exhibition Building in the central part of the town, where the Frank Bostock Jungle had two long and prosperous seasons. The big hall has been overhauled throughout, and the well-known firm of exhibition experts, Messrs. Woollen and Co., Ltd., have greatly brightened up the interior. "All the fun of the fair" can be enjoyed with comfort. There are stalls and side shows galore, and all the well-known attractions that appeal to old and young alike. The White Viennese Band, under the direction of Herr Menz, discourse popular selections. The Comedies, a troupe of vocalists and burletta artistes, appear twice daily, and the famous Swiss giants, the Bros. Hugo, are also special attractions.

Mr. Arthur S. Evanson, the popular manager of the Alhambra, Openshaw, was accorded a well-deserved benefit last (Tuesday) night.

THE CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL.

This Yuletide brings into the ever-widening circuit of suburban variety palaces the Golder's Green Hippodrome, to be run by Mrs. Walter Gibbons and Sir Joseph Beecham. The ordinary superlatives can only do scant justice to the beautiful and tastefully furnished interior with its marble staircases, its extensive stage, its magnificent auditorium, and its wonderful tank for water spectacles. The new house opens on Boxing Day with a company that includes Walter Bellonini, the popular juggler; Virto, the man of instruments; the New Macs; Joe Archer; Four Cadinos; Vera Moore and Sister; and Dandy George and his Jungle Kid, otherwise Wee Maggie, a trained Simian, with wisdom in inverse ratio to its size. There will be a David Devant matinée on Saturday.

The programme arranged for Christmas week at the Palace Theatre is of the light and mirthful order. In addition to Mr. Weedon Grossmith and company in "A Pantomime Rehearsal," such public favourites as Arthur Prince, Albert Whelan, Joe Jackson, the Palace Girls, Oswald Williams, and La Pia will contribute to the general enjoyment. There will be no matinée to-day, but afternoon performances of the full holiday programme will be given on Friday and Saturday.

The revue, "Keep Smiling!" which has played to the capacity of the Alhambra for ten weeks, and which reaches its hundredth performance on New Year's Day, will be the great Christmas attraction at this most popular of theatres. The variety programme will include the clever Klein Family of cyclists, Baptiste and Franconi, and other attractions. The usual Wednesday matinée will be suspended to-day, but there will be matinées on Boxing Day and Saturday.

At the Empire, Mr. Walter Dickson, the managing-director (who is not resigning), is postponing the production of his novel revue until the New Year, and therefore the Boxing Day attractions will be "The Gay Lothario," the ballet "Titania," with Miss Phyllis Bedells in the title-rôle. R. G. Knowles is the chief star of the variety portion of the entertainment.

The London Hippodrome produced its new revue, "Hullo, Tango!" last night at its reopening. Mr. Albert de Courville and Mr. Max Pemberton are again collaborating in the book, and the music is by Mr. Louis Hirsch. The costumes are by Bakst.

At the Coliseum, Mr. Oswald Stoll presents Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Always Tell Your Wife," noticed in another column; the Gaieties; the Hanlon Brothers, in "The Haunted Hotel"; the Mirza Golem troupe; and Margaret Cooper.

In Mr. Blyth Pratt's holiday scheme at the Oxford figure George Formby, Tom Woottwell, Malcolm Scott, the Versatile Four, Charles T. Aldrich, the versatile one, La Belle Nello, and others.

Mr. Charles Gulliver has a double show at the Palladium—the Minstrels by day and the variety company twice nightly. Mr. Eugene Stratton remains from last week; Miss Irma Lorraine, Alice Hollander, and Jack and Evelyn return; Ernie Lotinga will again be seen in "Bluebottles"; and other turns include Sam Mayo, Tucker, May Moore Duprez, and Joe Boganny's Opium Fiends.

The Holborn Empire is strong in comedy with Charles Austin as Parker, P.C., Jack Pleasants, Harry Champion, Farr and Farland and King and Benson, La Freya, Bell Hattons, the Richardini Troupe, and the Mareumas.

Mr. Frank Glenister relies for his principal attraction on "Le Petit Cabaret," presented by Toby Claude and company. May Henderson, Malcolm Scott, and Syd May return to a house where their popularity is assured; and Beattie and Babs, Hayman and Franklin, the Amaranths, the Gothams, and Anna Dorothy will also make good.

The Metropolitan is to stage that smashing drama, "Humanity," with John Lawson as Only a Jew; Anna Chandler; Ernie Leno; and George Formby.

At the Tivoli Mr. Joseph Wilson lists the following:—George Formby, Vernon Watson, Fritzi von Derra, the new dancer, Jock McKay, Anna Chandler, Cinquevalli, and Beattie and Babs.

The Chelsea Palace will produce pantomime on Boxing Night—for the first time—and will rely on the kaleidoscopic attractions of "Robinson Crusoe."

East Ham, Tottenham, and Walthamstow, in the outer suburban ring, will present pantomimes, too, on Boxing Night—"Cinderella" at the first-mentioned house, "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the second, and "Sinbad the Sailor" at the last. Mr. Harry Bawn has secured Mr. Edward Marris's pantomime for the whole week.

The Empress, Brixton's, holiday bill has for its sketch attraction "A Woman in the Case," and the varieties will be contributed by, among others, Miss Nella Webb, Miss Elfie Faye, and Clive and Bunyea.

The feminist question will also be discussed at the Euston in "Should a Woman Tell?" and there will be a first-rate list of variety turns.

THE MARDO TRIO.

Making their first appearance in Europe at the Empire, Leicester-square, on Monday evening, the Mardo Trio presented a show that, in professional terms, would be described as a "novelty comedy act." They perform, however, such a variety of funny things, introducing here and there a number of exceedingly clever somersaults and falls, that it would be difficult for anyone adequately to describe the act in any comprehensive term. It is sufficient to say that everything they did on Monday evening thoroughly entertained a typical Empire audience, and, judging by their reception, they should remain for a considerable period in this country.

The London Vaudeville Agents negotiated this engagement, and are handling the business of the Mardo Trio whilst in this country.

Mr. Eric Williams has secured the film rights of Mr. George R. Sims's dramatic poem, "The Lifeboat," for his speaking pictures series, and the film will be seen shortly on the screen, with Mr. Williams in the dual character of the lifeboatman in the pictures and the reciter from the platform.

Tom Finglass, the cowboy coon, has come to London for a long stay. He has a new and elaborate darky scene for presentation on the London Theatres of Varieties circuit, in which seven people will take part. This joyous act gives an idea in song, dance and pantomime of "A Pic's Wooing in Bamboo Town."

Those tiny artistes, Esylt, Ray and Yolanda, made their first appearance in vaudeville at the Canterbury last week. Judging from the storms of applause which followed their clever toe-dancing and dainty singing, they bid fair to become a popular trio.

An original revue, entitled "All Tickets, Please," will be produced by the Mascots at the Court Theatre, on Tuesday, Jan. 20 next, for five nights. The author is Mr. Stanley J. Fay, and the composer Mr. Cecil A. Friedlander. The revue is being produced under the stage direction of Mr. R. Louis Casson, and the musical direction of Mr. Robert S. Ker.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

THE OPPOSITION OF MISS IRMA LORRAINE.

The Public Control Committee of the London County Council held a special meeting on Friday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, for the purpose of licensing employment agencies. Mr. Percy S. Simmons (chairman of the Committee) presided. At the previous meeting an application was made by Mr. Adolph Isenthal for a renewal of a licence for his business, which he carries on at 27, Holmwood-road, Brixton-hill, under the name of the International Theatrical and Variety Agency.

Mr. Stephen Low appeared for the applicant.

The application was part heard on the 5th inst., when Miss Irma Lorraine opposed the application, on the ground that Mr. Isenthal was not a proper person to carry on the business of an agent. After hearing her statements with reference to the conduct of the applicant, the Committee decided to adjourn the hearing in consequence of certain allegations against Mr. Isenthal made in telegrams which Mr. J. Ollis (chief officer of the Public Control Department) had received from the Chief of Police in Berlin.

The chairman now said he thought it would be necessary to start the case afresh.

Miss Lorraine was then recalled, and in reply to Mr. Ollis said that she was a music-hall artiste. She first met Mr. Isenthal the day she first arrived in England in May, 1906. He had been asked to look after her, but he did not render her any assistance. She saw him continually afterwards. He offered to get her a substantial abatement of her income-tax for £5, which, he said, would be necessary for bribing the official responsible. She went to the Surveyor of Taxes herself, and asked whether she could get better terms by going to him direct and giving him the £5, or by acting through Mr. Isenthal. She was told she could do better by dealing direct, the Surveyor adding, "He never bribes me; whatever money he takes in that respect he takes for himself." Three or four years ago Mr. Isenthal had something to do with the marriage of a couple (the girl she knew), who could not get married quickly enough on the Continent. So they came to England, got into touch with Mr. Isenthal, were over here a few hours, got married, and went back again. Exactly what he did in the matter she did not know.

Miss Lorraine next referred to her marriage with Mr. Joe O'Gorman in 1909, and repeated her evidence that Mr. Isenthal had acted as a detective for both Mr. O'Gorman and herself. He offered to get a witness in the divorce case out of the country for £100, the sum of £20 being his share.

Mr. Ollis: Did you really want to smuggle the girl out of the country?

Miss Lorraine: That was his scheme. As a matter of fact, I took her out of the country afterwards when she came to me and asked for protection.

Miss Lorraine also gave particulars with reference to a transaction she had with Isenthal in regard to the London production of a sketch called "A Night in a Harem," which had previously been running on the Continent. He said to her, "I can't do business with the managers. I know they want that sketch; will you go to Mr. Tozer and recommend it?"

Mr. Low proceeded to question Miss Lorraine, whose principal allegations against Mr. Isenthal were that he told her he could not make a living by his theatrical agency alone; that for money payments he got young Germans free from military service in Germany; that for money received he obtained a reduction in the period of quarantine of performing dogs from six to three months; that he acted improperly as a private detective by acting for both parties at the same time; and that he did some money-lending business.

Mr. Low produced a letter and asked: "Is that the signature of your late husband, Mr. Joe O'Gorman?"

Miss Lorraine: Yes, I believe it is; but why not bring Mr. O'Gorman here? He is appearing at the Holborn. She denied that the suggestion to get the witness out of the country came from herself and another gentleman. In reply to further questions, she said that if Isenthal got his living as a variety agent she would not be there. If he were a detective only, she would say "Get on with it"; she was there to say he used his licence not as an agent, but for the purpose of carrying on other businesses.

Mr. Low: Was not a motion for contempt made against you for getting that girl witness out of the country?—There was something made, but they did nothing.

Miss Lorraine said that she had witnesses in support of her statements, but one of them had been interfered with by Mr. Isenthal, and though he had been present that morning he had not been seen since the adjournment for luncheon.

Mr. Wm. Berol, Chairman of the International Artistes' Lodge, was next called. He said he knew that Mr. Isenthal approached artistes arriving in England who were not familiar with the customs of the country, and told them he was an agent, but as a matter of fact he did anything but agency work. He had neither the confidence of the managers nor of the artistes.

Mr. Low: How do you know that?—Because I have received numerous complaints from artistes.

Mr. Low: Are you here because of your friendship with Miss Lorraine?—No; I am here in the interests of the artistes.

Have you received any instructions from the Lodge to oppose the licence?—No.

Letters from the German police were read by Mr. Ollis, in which it was stated that a warrant had been issued for the arrest of Mr. Isenthal in December, 1901, for inciting to perjury in connection with the Steinberg trial. It was not served, as he could not be found. He would not be allowed a licence in Berlin, as the accusation against him still remained.

Mr. Peter Macintyre, Inspector in the Public Control Department, stated that he visited Mr. Isenthal's offices at Brixton in July, 1911, and was satisfied that applicant had observed the necessary by-laws. His business was not extensive. He had made about ten contracts in six months. The office was full of documents of various kinds.

Mr. Thomas Johnson, another inspector in the employ of the Public Control Committee, said he had seen the German Vice-Consul, who informed him that for some time Isenthal had applied to him to exempt young Germans resident in this country from military service. Later he had his suspicions aroused that the transactions were not in order, and, after making inquiries, barred him from making such applications in future. It was later found that Isenthal had bribed an office boy to lead him to the room of one of the under-secretaries. Subsequently a letter was received from him threatening proceedings, but these had never been taken.

Mr. Adolf Isenthal was then called. He stated that he came to this country in September, 1900, from Berlin, where he had a private inquiry office. He had since been to Berlin on many occasions. The warrant referred to in the police letters was merely a summons for him to give evidence. The word "arrest" had been wrongly translated. It was not true that he had done any detective work for either Mr. O'Gorman or Miss Lorraine. He received £6 from Mr. O'Gorman, but that was a loan. He did not go to Miss Lorraine and offer his services as a detective. He had never asked artistes for money to bribe an income-tax official and get their income-tax reduced. He introduced them to a friend of his at Tooting who ran an income-tax adjustment agency, and received a third of the commission. He also denied that he had ever asked for £2,000 from three owners of performing dogs, stating that he could get the quarantine regulations altered. It was untrue that he bribed an office boy as alleged, or that he had helped young Germans in this country to evade military service. He had been thanked by the German Consulate for finding people. With regard to the allegation that he had arranged marriages, the applicant explained that two foreign artistes came to him and said they wanted to get married. As they could not speak English, he went to the registrar's office and arranged it all for them.

Miss Lorraine: And the commission?

Mr. Isenthal: I ask, do you work for nothing?

Miss Lorraine put some further questions to Mr. Isenthal. He denied that he had to leave Berlin in a hurry, adding "I came to London on a trip, like anyone else."

The Committee then retired, and on making their reappearance after a brief deliberation the chairman announced that they had decided that the licence could not be renewed, but the Committee desired him to add that a great deal of the evidence both for and against the application they had altogether ignored.

OTHER APPLICATIONS.

With reference to the adjourned application of the Co-partnership Agency, Ltd., trading under the name of C. C. Bartram, 20, Cranbourn-street (circus, theatrical and variety artistes), Mr. Ollis stated that the Council's solicitor had expressed the opinion that it was not in accordance with the Act of Parliament that the name of a person should be used as the trade name. Mr. Bartram had agreed that his name should be omitted.

The Committee also dealt with a number of unopposed cases.

"THE FLOUR GIRL."

Musical "Millodrama," Written by Percival C. West, Produced at the Grand, Clapham, on Monday, Dec. 15.

St. Chudleigh .....Mr. Arthur Mortimer
Timothy Gripples .....Mr. Raymond Brooks
Millie .....Miss Jessie Wayland-Carr
Maria .....Miss Daisy Wynne
Shimmels .....Mr. Guy Fane

Briefly, the plot is this. St. Chudleigh, an officer on H.M.S. "Cupid," is under orders to sail. He comes (in full dress uniform) to Gripples' Mill to say good-bye to his sweetheart, Millie. Enter Shimmels (caretaker at the local girls' school), followed by about half a dozen charming schoolgirls. St. Chudleigh conceives an idea to test his sweetheart's love by getting Shimmels to pretend to make love to her. He plots this with the man, but is overheard by Millie, who, to punish him, appears to respond to the caretaker's advances. The man's wife, however, arrives, and drags him home. Explanations ensue, St. Chudleigh apologises, and all ends happily. So far, so good; but when we say that Mr. Guy Fane adopts an almost "red-nosed comedian's" make-up in the character of Shimmels, the idea of such a charming girl as Miss Jessie Wayland-Carr makes Millie having anything to do with him is so grotesque as to destroy the interest. Again, the picture of an officer in the King's Navy arriving at a flour mill in full dress uniform (including sword), and climbing a tree (still in full dress), to watch his sweetheart flirt with another man, is too absurd. Mr. Guy Fane is amusing as Shimmels.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S.

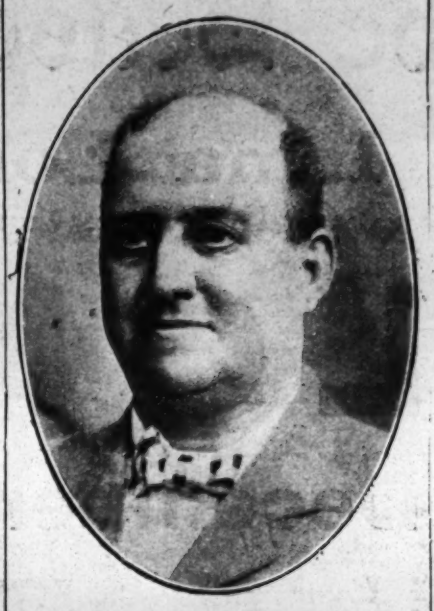
The Christmas programme at St. George's Hall is, as usual, one of the best entertainments of the season. "1,000 miles a minute; or, Jones and the Genie," by Robert Ganthony, is a clever magical sketch that will especially appeal to youngsters home for the holidays. Jones, who is in debt with his landlady, is discovered reading the "Arabian Nights." Whilst sitting in the room he suddenly finds upon his finger the "magic ring," which he rubs. A Genie appears in a flying box. Jones hears of the vast amount of treasure stored in the palace of the Genie, and, getting into the magic box, he wishes himself in the cave. He immediately gets there, and, enriching himself, proceeds to journey quickly from place to place, pursued all the time by the vengeful Genie. Eventually he discovers himself back again in his lodgings, only to find he has been dreaming. Many clever illusions are worked into this sketch, and the scenic effects employed add greatly to the success of the mystery.

The programme also includes "Biff," the latest Devant illusion, which we fully noticed upon its production; the A B C Fly, Travelling Thoughts, Tableaux Fantômes, The Yogi's Star, The Panel, The Disappearing Donkey, and other mysteries. Also Mr. Carl Lynn, the clever animal mimic, Mr. Carl Howlett's Marionettes, and Mr. Warwick Pryce at the piano. At a private show on Monday Mr. Carl Lynn proved his powers of mimicry by "speaking" to the now famous disappearing donkey whilst the latter stood in the auditorium. It was quite evident the donkey understood, for he at once answered in the same "language."

DEATH OF PAPA BROWN.

The variety world will sincerely mourn the death, which occurred early on Monday at his residence at Brixton, of Mr. Edwin Brown, universally known as "Papa" Brown. For years he had been a popular official of the Rats fraternity. He had a kindly word for everyone, and though he had not been appearing lately on the stage, up to a few years since he was immensely popular in his well-known sketches, "My Wife's First Baby," "The Lay Figure," and "Trilby."

Edwin Brown and Kate Kelly (Mrs. Edwin Brown) figured on the stage at least forty years ago as duologue artistes, and at the severance of the partnership through death, the daughter—also



THE LATE PAPA BROWN.

Miss Kate Kelly—who is now Mrs. Alexandre (of Alexandre and Hughes)—took the place of the mother. Miss Ada Cerito, another daughter, also played in her father's sketches until her successful début as a single turn. It will be remembered that she married Mr. Alf Lotto, the well-known trick cyclist, who died last year. A third daughter married one of the three Laurels.

Papa Brown was born about seventy-two years ago at Hull, where in his early years he followed the trade of a boiler-fitter. He met at Hull young Will Oliver, with whom he formed a friendship, that has only closed with his death. The last appearance of the deceased artiste was on the stage of the Palace Theatre in the picture of Variety's Garden Party at the conclusion of the command performance on July 1 last year. The deceased gentleman will be buried to-day in the Catholic portion of Kensal Green Cemetery.

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THE WORLD'S FAIR

The World's Fair will be opened at the Agricultural Hall on Friday, and a colossal programme of varied amusements will be produced daily until further notice.

Mr. T. E. Read, the sole lessee and manager, has made bold efforts in his endeavours to further enhance the popularity of his great annual "World's Fair." Its long sustained popularity and success is due to the perseverance and determination of his running a truly first-class show on popular lines, and a judicious and ever-varied programme of genuine miscellaneous attractions by leading artistes, male and female, of the amusement world. There are the elements of sensationalism of the highest degree, and a multiplicity of other attractions of a never-ending variety which can be seen free of extra charge.

Partridge and Co., of 32, Stockwell-road, S.W., are the publishers of "Always sweethearts," which has a catchy, lilting melody. Its sentiment is of the healthy, domestic sort, and should appeal readily from the stage or hearth.

The Dancing Paceys, in consequence of a number of acts adopting the word "dancing" in front of their names, will, to avoid confusion, drop that prefix. They will in future be known as the Paceys.

Among those at the burial of Alec Hurley was the late comedian's confidential friend and travelling companion, Barney Samuell, who, in fulfilment of a promise made long ago, put some violets and lilies on his dead chum's grave. On Sunday, the 14th, there was a special Mass at the Catholic Church, Robson-street, Brixton, for the repose of the soul of the dead comedian. Those present included Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hanley, Misses Hurley (his nieces), Dick Burge, and Barney Samuell.

All is now practically in readiness for the opening of the Wonder Zoo and Big Circus at Olympia, Kensington, on Boxing Day. The beautifully decorated Big Circus, with its 5,000 seats, is now in daily use by the various artistes who will figure in this arena, and that a first-class ring show delights the public is proved by the fact that the bookings for seats already run to several thousands of pounds. The third section of the Olympia collection is in the annexe, where two acres of space have been used to form a series of lakes and other enclosures for the smaller animals. In the main building we have a gigantic mountain for the lions to roam at freedom; a towering rock for two hundred monkeys to play upon; and an African water hole where elephants, camels, zebras, antelopes, giraffes, and so forth come down to drink.

ANIMAL TRAINERS AND THEIR CRITICS.

BY REV. T. HORNE, CHAPLAIN OF THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

It has been my privilege to know the oldest families in the circus world, and in the days of my youth to have enjoyed the liberty of the circus arena at all hours and under all circumstances. My knowledge of travelling menageries, great and small, has been equally intimate, and looking back upon full fifty years' experience of both shows and circuses giving trained animal performances I am able to say that all the training and all the exhibitions I have seen were the result of patient skill, kind treatment, and the drawing out of the imitative and mental powers of the educated animals.

The truth about the training of animals was well put by Mr. Ginnett at the recent meeting against animal performances held at the Kensington Town Hall. Mr. Ginnett boldly challenged Mr. Johns and the other impugners of the methods of animal training to the proof of their assertions. He said he was prepared before an open jury or appointed committee to take any wild animal that the jury might decide, to purchase it at his own cost, and to train it for exhibition purposes. The whole of the training to be under the eye and supervision of the appointed jury.

I well remember the sale of George Sanger's circus, and that the dear old man would not sell a number of his loved animals in whose training for the arena he had taken so much delight. Speaking to me, he said: "I have kept them upon the retired list; they have earned a rest equally with myself." It is a fact beyond all dispute that George Sanger's method was based upon affection and not terror.

I remember the Newsomes, Henglers, Pablo Fanque, Cooke, and many others in the palmy days of the circus, and in more recent years I can speak of Fossett, Hanneford, Procter, Crouests, and other circuses, and I testify unreservedly to their uniform kindness to all animals under their care.

I attended the so-called public meeting at Kensington Town Hall on the 15th instant, but although I sent up my card, and begged for five minutes' hearing, I was not allowed to speak.

After this repulse I sent the following letter to the *Times*.

TRAINED ANIMAL PERFORMANCES.

To the Editor of the *Times*.

DEAR SIR,—In the interest of British animal trainers I attended the recent meeting at the Kensington Town Hall, organised to protest against trained animal performances at the Variety Halls, or in circuses, shows and menageries. I sent up my card to the chairman, and asked for five minutes' liberty to address the meeting. This was refused. I beg the freedom of the *Times* to say a word in defence of British animal trainers. I have no knowledge of foreign trainers, but speak that I do know of our own showmen of the circus, the menagerie, and the variety stage.

For over forty years I have had intimate intercourse and friendship with these people. They constitute an important part of my wandering flock. As the senior chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, I have ministered to them at crowded services in circuses and in shows. I have tended them in sickness and health. I am proud to be their priest, their advocate and historian. If the word of such an expert witness is of any value, I ask the justice-loving public to suspend judgment until the conference promoted by the British trainers, and held at the offices of the R.S.P.C.A., has reported.

Generally, I can testify that cruel methods in training, or cruel treatment in the exhibition or keeping of animals, are not practised by our showmen.

In their behalf, the Showmen's Guild, the Variety Artistes' Federation, and kindred societies, court the fullest enquiry, and are confident that the result will be the full vindication of their character from the crime and stigma of cruelty.

Yours ever, for God and for good,
T. HORNE,
Chaplain of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain.
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.
December 16, 1913.

THE CONFERENCE PROMOTED BY THE TRAINERS.

Very largely owing to the efforts of Captain Joseph Woodward, of performing seal fame, and Mr. Wm. Berol, secretary for the International Artistes' Lodge, a conference was arranged in order to effect, after full discussion, a working scheme of inspection of trained animals that would be satisfactory to the R.S.P.C.A. and kindred societies, whilst presenting for the public satisfaction the true case for the animal trainers.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was the convener of the meeting, and the conference took place in the Society's Board Room, on December 15.

Mr. E. G. Fairholme, honorary secretary of the Society, presided in the absence of Lord Lonsdale, and with him was Mr. Fowler, a member of the executive. Representing the Variety Halls were—Messrs. Charles Gulliver and Oscar Barrett. For travelling circuses Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ginnett and Mr. James Sanger were the representatives. For travelling menageries, Messrs. E. H. and Francis Bostock. Captain Woodward and Professor John Buer were the delegates for the animal trainers.

The Rev. T. Horne, chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, representing the general showman world interest, and Messrs. W. Berol and B. Sherek representing the foreign artistes and animal trainers.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from Messrs. Alfred Butt, Frank Allen, Oswald Stoll, C. B. Cochrane, and Clemart, for the V.A.F.

The chairman, in opening the conference, welcomed the delegates present and assured them that neither the agitation in the public Press nor the protest meeting of the previous evening at the Kensington Town Hall were promoted by the Royal Society. He was therefore in a position without bias or prejudice to offer their Society's good offices in the origination of a practical and wise scheme that would satisfy public opinion and would allay the doubts and misgivings of many people whose sympathies had been roused by the recent agitation in the Press.

In order that a discussion might be fruitful in practical results he suggested the following points—(1) That all owners of animal turns should be licensed as a guarantee to the management and to the public that no cruelty is used in the training and management of animals. (2) Foreign trainers to furnish certificates through the various foreign societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals that no cruelty had been used in the training. (3) That managers would give every facility to official inspectors to inspect trained animals without previous notification and at all hours.

Arising out of these suggestions a very practical discussion took place. There was unanimity of opinion as regards the objects sought to be attained, and on the part of the trainers, the circus proprietors, the travelling menageries and showmen generally the suggestions were warmly approved, Messrs. Woodward, W. Berol, James Sanger, F. Ginnett, Professor Buer, and the Rev. T. Horne giving useful contributions to the practical shaping of a scheme along the lines suggested by the chairman.

Mr. Oscar Barrett, in complete agreement with the objects of the conference, said that no responsible manager would permit a turn involving cruelty to appear. He agreed with Mr. Woodward that it would be difficult to secure an alteration in the terms of the professional contracts, which were governed by the Askwith award. He had, however, no doubt that the methods of inspection and certification already outlined would go a long way to allay public apprehensions. Various details arising out of the suggested plan were discussed, and it was resolved that a further conference be called at a later date to consider the quarantine regulations, which at present involved hardship and suffering to the animals.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

From the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, comes the news that Miss Olive Tempest, as Abdulla, makes a sensational hit with Feldman's ear-haunting ballad, "You're my baby," "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam," and "Sumurun girl." Miss Ivy Proudfoot, as Ganem, has set all Edinburgh mad about the charms of that wonderful ballad, "My little Persian rose." Martin Adeson, the principal comedian, could not resist, in the joy of his great success, writing Feldman to the effect that "When my wife's in—I'm out" and "P.C. 49" were terrific winners. Mr. Howit, under whose direction the pantomime was produced, is to be congratulated on his choice of artistes and songs, which no doubt lay the foundation for the pantomime's great success.

In Milton Bode's gorgeous pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Feldman's songs are again predominant, particularly "The wedding glide," "My little Persian rose," and "The ragtime golliwog man," sung by Miss Nellie Wigley. The "turn-up" song of the year, "You're my baby," is, of course, a gigantic success, Miss Madeline Rossiter and Mr. Clifford Morgan being encored again and again for their magnificent rendition. Miss Dora Melrose scores with "Good-bye, summer, so long fall, and hallo winter-time." Wheeler and Russ get over with "In my harem." Will Gane has the entire audience singing "How are yer?" In fact, right from the overture, "Wonderland," to the finale, Feldman hits prevail.

Miss Florrie Forde, a great singer of chorus songs, has never met with such enormous success as in her "Red Riding Hood" pantomime, produced at the Palace, Manchester, on Monday. Her four songs are all Feldman hits, viz., "The way the wind blows," "Hello, who's your lady friend?" "Moonflower," and "You're my baby." In the latter she is assisted by the principal girl, Miss Stella Esdaile, whose excellent soprano voice is also shown to great advantage in "My little Persian rose." Miss Marie Blythe's rendition of "When I lost you" is encored nightly.

The Princess's, Glasgow, pantomime, produced by Rich Waldon on Thursday last, completed the victory of Feldman in the first Glasgow pantomimes. Josie Delaine is a great favourite in "I'm coming back to bonnie, bonnie Scotland" and "Dance your troubles away" (two of Lawrence Wright's compositions), and "The wedding glide." Many other Arthur-street winners are introduced.

The firm of Feldman and Company wish us to convey their good wishes to all their friends in pantomime.

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IRMA LORRAINE. [*Photo by Corn.*

IRMA LORRAINE. [*Photo by Corn.*

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Mdlles. MARJAH & LEONI BERENYI.

1. Introduction.
2. "The Sun" ... ... MARJAH
3. "Literature" ... ... LEONI BERENYI
4. "A Favourite"... ... IRMA LORRAINE
5. "The Bath of Psyche" ... L. BERENYI
6. "Summer" ... ... IRMA LORRAINE
7. "Milkmaid" ... ... LEONI BERENYI
8. "A Dancer" ... ... MARJAH
9. "Quo Vadis" ... ... LEONI BERENYI
10. "The Miracle" ... MARJAH & LORRAINE

DATE SHEET

1913

Jan. 6	Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness	
13	King's Theatre, Dundee	
20	Royal, Wellingboro	
27	New Theatre, Aberdare	
Feb. 3	Grand, Gravesend	
10	King's Hall, Dover	
17	Hippo., Rotherhithe	
24	Hippo., Lowestoft	
Mar. 3	Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth	
10	Grand, Chorley	
17	Hippo., Darlington	
24	Opera House, Paisley	
31	Opera House, Perth	
Apr. 7	Pavilion, Ayr	
14	Hippo., Eastbourne	
21	Hippo, Aldershot	
28	Hippo., Sheerness	
May 5	Palace, Watford	
12	Resting	
19	Empire, Sheffield	
26	Empire, Bradford	
June 2	Palace, Hull	
9	Empire, Leeds	
16	Hippo., Woolwich	
23	Royal, Worcester	
June 30	Hippo., Tonypandy	
July 7	Hippo., Devonport	
14	Hippodrome, Exeter	
21	New Hall, Bargoed	
28	Empire, Stratford	
Aug. 4	Empire, New Cross	
11	Empire, Finsbury Park	
18	Hippodrome, Portsmouth	
25	Empire, Newcastle	
Sept 1	Empire, Edinburgh	
8	Coliseum, Glasgow	
15	Olympia, Liverpool	
22	Empire, Newport	
29	Empire, Cardiff	
Oct. 6	Empire, Swansea	
13	Grand, Birmingham	
20	Tivoli, Manchester	
27	Holborn, Empire	
Nov. 3	Palace, Derby	
10	Empire, Stockport	
17	Empire, Kilburn	
24	Hippo., Lewisham	
Dec. 1	Empress, Brixton	
8	Palace, Hammersmith	
15	Palladium	
22	,,	
29	Gulliver tour	

1914

Jan. 5	Gulliver tour	
12	,,	,,
19	,,	,,
26	,,	,,
Feb. 2	,,	,,
9	Empire, Nottingham	
16	Resting	
23	Palladium, London	
Mar. 2	Empire, Croydon	
9	Hippodrome, Dover	
16	Hippodrome, Eastbourne	
23	.....	
30	.....	
Apr. 6	Empire, Edinburgh	
13	Opera, Buxton	
20	Sailing South Africa	
27	,,	,,
May 4	Touring	,,
11	,,	,,
18	,,	,,
25	,,	,,
June 1	,,	,,
8	,,	,,
15	,,	,,
22	,,	,,
29	,,	,,
July 6	,,	,,
13	,,	,,
July 20	Touring South Africa	
27	Arriving England	
Aug. 3	Empire, Glasgow	
10	Kings, Dundee	
17	.....	
24	.....	
31	Hippodrome, Boscombe	
Sept. 7	Palace, Plymouth	
14	Palace, Walthamstow	
21	Palace, Euston	
28	South London	
Oct. 5	Empress, Brixton	
12	Palace, Chelsea	
19	Palace, Metropolitan	
26	Palace, Tottenham	
Nov. 2	Tivoli, Manchester	
9	.....	
16	Finsbury Park Empire	
23	Gulliver tour	
30	Palace, East Ham	
Dec. 7	Empire, New Cross	
14	Empire, Stratford	
21	Hippodrome, Portsmouth	
28	Hippodrome, Southampton	

1915

Jan. 4	Empire, Cardiff	
11	Empire, Swansea	
18	Grand, Birmingham	
25	Empire, Sheffield	
Feb. 1	Empire, Bradford	
8	Palace, Hull	
15	Empire, Leeds	
22	Empire, Newcastle	
Mar. 1	.....	
8	Empire, Liverpool	
15	Empire, Nottingham	
22	.....	
29	.....	
Apr. 5	Gulliver tour	
12	,,	,,
19	Hippodrome, Brighton	
26	Hippodrome, Southend	
May 3	.....	
10	.....	
17	.....	
24	Gulliver tour	
31	Empire, Glasgow	
June 7	Empire, Edinburgh	
14	.....	
21	.....	
28	.....	
July 5	.....	
12	Gulliver tour	
19	.....	
26	Empire, Newport	
Aug. 2	.....	
9	.....	
16	.....	
23	.....	
30	.....	
Sept. 6	.....	
13	Gulliver tour	
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Oct. 4	,,	,,
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Dec. 6	.....	
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Shepherd's Bush,
London, W.

IRMA LORRAINE

'Phone—
1255 Hammersmith.

THE "ERA" SONG, SKETCH AND PATTER BUREAU.

NOTICE.—Owing to the great use made of this column by both artistes and authors, a large amount of work is consequently entailed, necessitating a small registration fee of 2s. 6d. upon every MS. sent in. No charge is made to artistes.

Reg. No.	AUTHORS' MSS. FOR DISPOSAL. Description.
648	One-act comedy, 2 males, 1 female; scene, old farmhouse kitchen in 1800.
654	One-act comedy sketch, 2 females, 1 male; scene, sitting-room.
658	Chorus song, "I went on strike."
661	Domestic playlet, humorous, pathetic, 5 characters, strong coster part; Scene 1, street in East End; Scene 2, interior of room in East End.
663	One-act comedy, 4 males, 1 female; scene, Flanders, 1794, interior of woodman's hut.
665	Farcical sketch to suit Irish comedian, 4 males, 1 female; could be arranged for 3 characters only if desired; scene, Hibernia Hotel.
666	Farce dialogue for 2 characters, male and female; scene, sitting-room in flat.
667	One-act dramatic sketch, 3 males, 1 female; scene, interior of house in Knightsbridge.
669	Duet (words only) for male and female and chorus, "What does it mean?"
670	One-act comedy-drama, 3 males, 1 female; scene, morning-room in riverside house; plays about 25 mins.
671	Good chorus number (words and music), suitable for light comedian or male impersonator.
672	One-act dramatic sketch, an episode of the Boxer Rising, 3 males, 1 female; scene, Colonel's quarters in garrison barracks at Kow Loon.
673	Irish play for 5 females, 4 males, and 3 farm labourers, in 3 scenes.
675	Song (words only), "The song the birdie sang"; music could be arranged.
676	High-class one-act farce, 4 males, 1 female; scene, drawing-room.
678	One-act dramatic sketch, 5 males, 2 females; scene, a salon at Grignon, period seventeen days after Napoleon's escape from Elba.
680	One-act sketch, 2 males, 1 female; scene, City office.
681	Synopsis of one-act farce, 3 males, 2 females; plays about 20 minutes; scene, interior of modern flat.
682	Synopsis of one-act dramatic sketch, 1 male lead, 2 females, two other men who speak two or three lines each, and small group; scene, interior of fisherman's cottage.
683	One-act dramatic domestic episode, 3 males, 1 female (two brother actors, the daughter of the one and the manservant of the other); scene, dining-room; good scope for a vivacious young actress.
684	Quaintly unique duologue in one act, Shakespeare's Ann Hathaway with her "Will" characters, shades of Shakespeare and his wife; scene, room in Hampton Court Palace.
685	Powerful sketch, full of "grip," female lead, fine emotional part, girl disguised as boy saving condemned soldier-lover; male lead, King of imaginary European State; scene, king's tent on battlefield; period, the present.

Those numbers that have appeared in our list, but do not appear to-day, are either disposed of, out on approval, or held over. Any of above will be submitted by post to artistes if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed to the Secretary of "The Era" S. S. and P. Bureau, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Reg. No.	ARTISTES' REQUIREMENTS.
319	Novel and original idea with gags for 2 comedians.
320	Dramatic vocal scena suitable for operatic bass, baritone, and dramatic soprano; 20 to 30 minutes.
321	Original scena to be worked by comedian and lady and gentleman assistants; comedian's style similar to Wilkie Bard.
322	Comedy sketch or duologue, light comedy lady, character comedian, gent., and chambermaid; if duologue light, comedy lady, character comedian, gentleman.
325	Cross talk or funny conversation for comedian and lady, in evening dress, à la Goodfellow and Gregson.

Authors who can submit MSS. for above should submit same to the Bureau at once, quoting reference number. Until sold, all MSS. and the ideas they contain are deemed the copyright property of the author, and no artiste may make use of the same until he has purchased the work.

RULES GOVERNING THE BUREAU.

Authors on the Bureau's registers will be asked to submit ideas and suggestions with a view to obtaining commissions for the work wanted.

A registration fee of 2s. 6d. must accompany every MS. sent in, and a small commission, varying according to the amount of work done, will be deducted from all sums for which work is sold.

These charges cover the costs of all announcements made in these columns.

All MSS. submitted must bear the Author's name, address, and the price required. A stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

The Bureau's registered number (not artistes' names) will be used in letters or advertising.

Authors are requested to send in to the Secretary at once MSS. ideas or synopsis for disposal. These, in addition to being advertised in this column, will be submitted at the earliest possible moment to Artistes whom they are likely to suit.

Miss Mary Robson, who made her first important London appearance in the revue, "Kill That Fly," at the Alhambra, has been released by Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux to join Mr. George Edwardes' "Girl on the Film" Company in New York, where she will appear. Miss Robson will, however, be returning to the Alhambra in April of next year.

We have received from the Fred Collins' Variety Agency, of 115, Renfield-street, Glasgow, a telephone directory, which will be found to be of much convenience to those who, desiring to find numbers quickly, experience annoying delay in searching the official publication on each occasion. The production can be hung on the wall, and there are a number of leaves, alphabetically arranged, on which one may note those numbers for which they have constant need.

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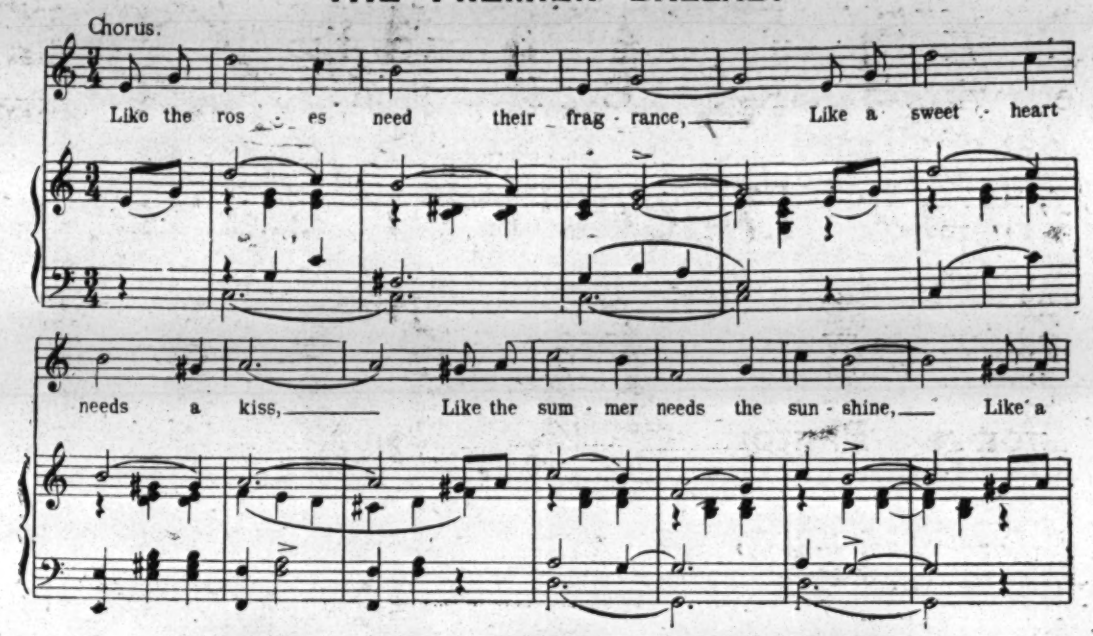
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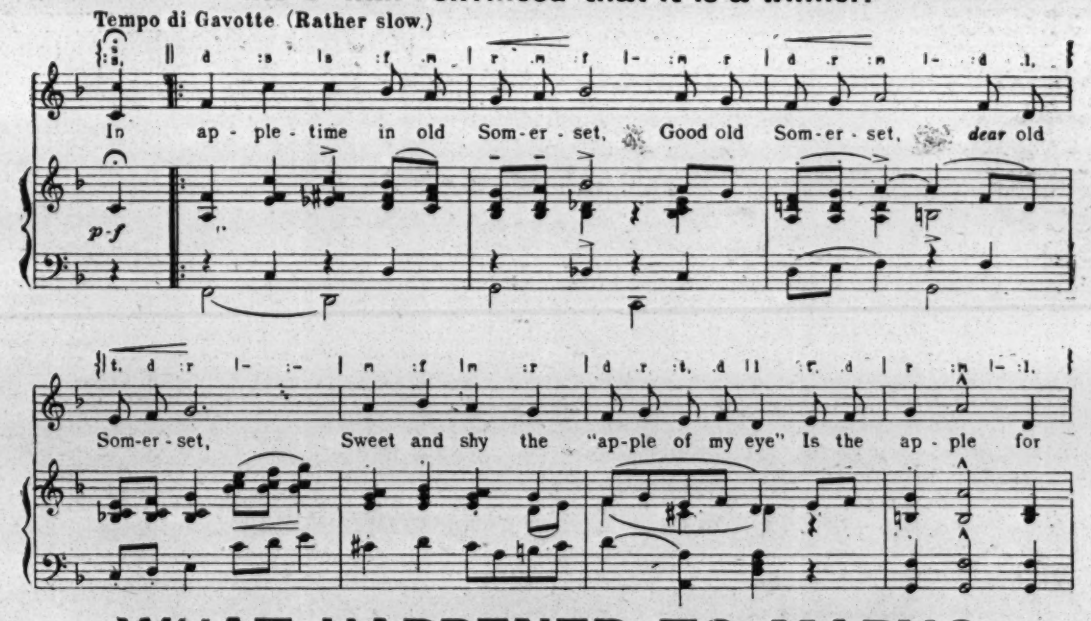
Tempo di Gavotte (Rather slow.)
In ap - ple - time in old Som-er - set, Good old Som-er - set, dear old
Som-er - set, Sweet and shy the "ap-ple of my eye" Is the ap - ple for

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CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE.

At the Children's Christmas Tree and Treat at the Horns Hotel, Kennington, on Friday last, 117 sat down to lunch and tea. All were clothed, given boots, and afterwards went home with as much as they could possibly carry. The Music Hall Ladies' Guild have since received letters from the parents saying the children have never ceased talking about the splendid time they had, and Friday, Dec. 19, will be put down as a red-letter day in their lives. The Rev. Stephen Barraes said grace. Mr. Joe Elvin called in, saw the "kiddies" enjoying themselves, and kindly left another guinea, and Mr. Chas. Coborn came along and played the part of Santa Claus to perfection. The visitors were Mrs. Fred Ginnett, her daughter, niece and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. W. Bevol, Mrs. Lewis Levey, Mr. Vaughan Reed and two lady friends, Mr. McArte, Mrs. Nancie Pounds and friends, Miss Flo Banks, Miss Kate Tooley, Mrs. Aarons, Miss Alvar, Miss K. Douglas, Mrs. Kellner and friends, Mr. Douglas Stuart, Mr. T. C. Callaghan, and Mr. Chas. Cornish. The president and the committee who were there helping included Miss Cecilia McCarte, Miss Lottie Albert, Mrs. Charles Coborn, Mrs. Herbert Shelley and her daughter Alma, Miss Florence Huntley, Mrs. Kasrac, Miss Julie McCarte, Mrs. Vernon Cowper, Miss Irene Rose, Mrs. Segre, Mrs. J. W. Mambly and daughters, and Miss Rosie Foote and sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Hymans sent two boxes of chocolates, Miss Irene Rose gave fairy dolls and babies' dresses, Mrs. Segre clothing, Miss Flora M. Fox box of crackers, Mrs. Synge Hutchinson useful warm clothing, Mrs. J. W. Hall dolls and clothing, Miss Maggie Bowman dressed dolls, Miss Coghlan useful clothing and shoes, Mrs. Ernest Collins collars and ties, Mrs. J. W. Cragg three plum puddings, the Five Sisters Garrick toys, Rev. Stephen Barraes useful clothing and toys, and Messrs. Auger and Bauer plum puddings, per the Sisters McCarte.

Further contributions came from Mrs. Emily Synge Hutchinson, £1 1s.; Miss Violet Folland, £1 1s.; Dr. Walford Bodie, £1 1s.; Mrs. Walford Bodie, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Herbert Shelley, 10s.; Mrs. H. Wilson, 5s.; Miss Schrader (per Miss Mabel Mavis), 10s.; Mrs. Oswald Stoll, £2 2s., donation; Anonymous (per Miss Lottie Albert), 5s.; Mr. Alfred de Rothschild (per Mrs. Charles Coborn), £2; Mrs. Giton (per Miss Lottie Albert), 5s.; Mrs. Nancie Pounds, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Fred Ginnett, £1 1s.; Mrs. Lewis Levey (per Miss Lottie Albert), £1; Miss Marie Kendall, £1 1s.; the Sable Three and Searle collection, 5s.; Mr. S. R. Marks, collection, 6s.; and Mrs. F. V. St. Clair, collection, 5s.

The committee also wish to thank Messrs. Rayne for the loan of Santa Claus costume, and Mrs. Mask, florist, for the loan of the huge Christmas tree.

BENEFICENT ORDER OF TERRIERS.

The annual general meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 25, 1914, at the "Three Stags Hotel," Kennington, S.E., at 8 p.m. The chief business will be the election of officers. All nominations for office must be proposed and seconded respectively, by two members of the Order, and all candidates must give their consent in writing, one calendar month prior to the date of the annual election. All nominations should be forwarded to the secretary on or before Thursday (to-morrow), and all resolutions by Jan. 10, 1914.

The following candidates for membership of the Order were balloted for on Sunday last:—Alec Kendal, Will Roland, Teddy Mack, Charles Emerald, Jock McKay. Applications for membership have been received from: Pat Lynch, Robert Williams, second notice; John Nicholson, third notice; and Tom E. Roma and Gilbert Payne, final notice.

The annual dinner and dance will be held on Sunday, Feb. 15, 1914, at Frascati's Restaurant, Oxford Street.

WAVERLEY MARKET CARNIVAL AT EDINBURGH.

Mr. F. A. Lumley, the prominent sportsman and entrepreneur, has this year secured the tenancy of the Waverley Market for the holiday season, and opened his "Carnival of Venice" on Monday evening. The late Sir Edward Moss carried on a similar entertainment for many years in the Waverley Market, and Mr. Lumley is determined to spare neither labour nor expense in giving the public an attractive resort combined with an interesting and diverting programme. Mr. Lumley's manager is Mr. W. Campbell Milne, so long associated with Sir Edward Moss. The Waverley Market has been transformed by the admirable scenic artiste, Mr. T. F. Dunn, into a representation of a Venetian setting, with gondolas and other features of the picturesque Italian city; while the electric lighting effects by Messrs. King and Co. impart much brilliance to the scheme. The platform performances are exceedingly varied, and include the Nicoletos, in their aerial fantasy act; the Four Clovelly Girls, club jugglers; Mizimo Troupe of Japanese entertainers; Smit and Smit, comedy gymnasts; Leroux's Monkeys, in a funny football and bicycle act; Correa, the prairie girl, in a remarkable exhibition of lariat throwing; Ernest and Henry, in an amusing acrobatic act; the Adams Trio, comedy cyclists; and Soliothi's lions and tigers. The side shows contain such wonders as Moller's Troupe of Lilliputians; the Brothers Hugo, giants; Mlle. Vallee, armless entertainer; Upmann, the man who grows; Venturini, illusionist; Poezsch Fat Boys; Adella, queen of mystery; Mlle. Maree, palmist; and Peter Pan's Parlour of Fun. Willmot's horses, Green's Venetian gondolas, the Komical Kitchen, shooting jungle, and Ragtime Coons add further life and interest to the scene. The Imperial San Marco Band discourse excellent music during the platform performances

TWO SKETCHES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Dear Sir,—I see in your issue of to-day's date notice of a sketch produced by Mr. Frank Lister at the Grand, Clapham, on Dec. 15, entitled "At Bronte's Shack." I would like to point out that Miss Marie Strathmore produced and played a sketch called "The Horse Thief," at the Empire, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, last July 14. So far as I read from the story of the sketch in your notice, the plot of Mr. Lister's sketch, the characters, the setting, and the business (even to the bandaging of the child's arm with home-made splints and the excuse for doing it) are precisely identical with Miss Strathmore's playlet. The name "Nan" is the same, the name "Bronte Heath" also; the name "Dan Whinney" alone being different from the names of the characters in "The Horse Thief." I, therefore, on behalf of Miss Strathmore, lay claim to the ownership of the sketch. Will you kindly do me the favour of printing this in your next issue and oblige yours truly,

BILLY MOORE,
Business Manager.

P.S.—I have written Mr. Frank Lister by this post to the Grand, Clapham, and enclose you copy of letter herewith.—B. M.

Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie, of which Mr. E. H. Bostock is now sole proprietor, is visiting Ipswich after an absence of two years, and is occupying what is known as the "Fair Ground" on Portman-road. Three performances and descriptive lectures are given daily, and are attracting large audiences.

INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS!

Read the Compliments paid to

SCOTCH KELLY

Miss EDNA MORGAN (our Principal Boy) said: "Kelly, you are the quaintest I've ever seen, you're a coming Star." Miss DAISY BRAY (Cinderella) said: "Kelly, you're excellent, you're the sweetest I've ever played with." SISTERS PINE said: "Kelly, you've improved out of all recognition." SISTERS KEBBLE said: "Kelly, never heard such applause in our lives; you're the doings." FRANK DUNLOP (our Dame) said: "Kelly, you're the real goods; always thought you were funny, but now you eclipse everything I've ever seen." Mr. JAMES (Stage Manager) said: "Kelly, you're a Pantomime in yourself." Mr. GEO. T. MINSHULL (our Producer and Manager) said: "Kelly, shake hands, my boy, you've made a very big success." Mr. HERBERT BLACKMORE said: "Kelly, splendid my boy, you've done everything Mr. Armstrong said you would do." The public of Aberdeen that have seen the Pantomime say: "Kelly is the funniest Comedian that ever visited this City."

"Cinderella" is a brilliant production which has, as its chief attraction, magnificent scenery, a large Company of principals—none of whom are superfluous—with an exceptionally **clever little Artiste** who would be the making of any Musical Comedy a success. The little Artiste is **SCOTCH KELLY**, who plays "Buttons," the Baron's Page, who will have all the applause during "Cinderella's" stay. He is so "abbreviated," "shrunk," or whatever he styles himself, that his physical appearance creates laughter, but when he takes to singing such tuneful songs as "Maggie Mackenzie," with Lauder-like pawkiness, the audience is extremely happy. This song will be first favourite in the local Pantomime.—*Aberdeen Bon-Accord*, Dec. 18, 1913. Even more popular was **SCOTCH KELLY'S** song "Maggie Mackenzie," the chorus of which goes with a merry jingle. Maggie had certainly all the charms her abbreviated lover claimed for her, and when in response to his urgent solicitations she appeared on the stage and tripped a gay measure with the little Romeo, why, the applause quite endangered the stability of the roof of His Majesty's Theatre.—*Aberdeen Evening Gazette*, Dec. 15, 1913.

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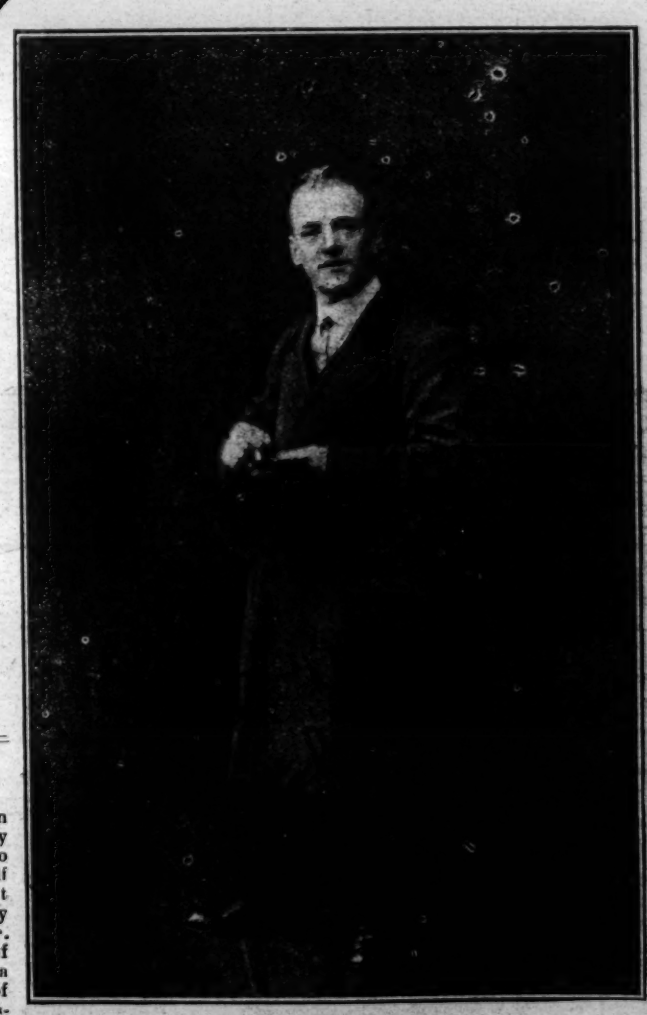

[*Photo by Morgan.*

SCOTCH KELLY.

Chief among the mirth-makers is a quaint little gentleman named Scotch Kelly, who, along with his partner, Mr. Barney Armstrong (who plays the part of the Baron), is well known to all frequenters of music halls. Mr. Armstrong contents himself with playing the Baron in the traditional way, and an excellent Baron he is; but his principal function here, as on the variety stage, is to act as foil or buffer to his diminutive colleague. For Scotch Kelly is small, and otherwise highly favoured of nature—that is, from the comedian's point of view. He is a little fellow of enormous comic force, a sort of diluted blend of Dan Leno and Little Tich—talking with the accent of Clydesdale. His style at different times reminds one forcibly of the two comedians named, and yet Scotch Kelly is entirely his own man. He is versatile, too, and artistic in all he does. At one time he is a sodger, vaguely like the sodger of Harry Lauder; at another time he is a burglar, and again he is just a common or human loon. But his highest achievement is a parody of a ballet dancer. In the regulation diaphanous and abbreviated skirts he twirls and pirouettes and leaps with a remarkable agility and verisimilitude (among other things he is an excellent dancer), and all the while he exaggerates and caricatures the airs and graces of the prima ballerina with a force and comicality that raise the thing almost to the level of a creation. It is a remarkable little bit of work, quite the feature of the pantomime. But Scotch Kelly is scoring all the time, and is inseparably bound up with the success of "Cinderella."—*Aberdeen Free Press*, Monday, Dec. 15, 1913.

With the meeting between the Baron and Billy the fun of the pantomime begins, and to the vigour and dexterity with which Mr. Armstrong and Scotch Kelly keep the ball rolling the gratifying success of the entertainment is largely due. Scotch Kelly is a host in himself. He is excessively droll, veiling a fund of sly humour under an assumption of simplicity, and joking freely at his own puny figure. Indeed when Kelly showed himself in the uniform of a soldier, swaggering about, flourishing his cane, boasting of his triumphs in love, and warbling the praises of "Maggie Mackenzie," there were shouts of merriment from all parts of the house. But he was still more funny as the admirer of Cinderella, who, even when bribed with an orange, can give him no encouragement. And he was funniest of all when in the magnificent ballroom scene, after the minuet had been danced to perfection by ladies in the picturesque costume of the eighteenth century, he flashes upon the audience as a coryphee, dances like a wild thing, pirouettes on his toes, and exhibits all the fascinating airs of "the queen of the ballet." Scotch Kelly is a real acquisition, and Mr. Armstrong "plays up" to the little comedian in spirited style.—*Aberdeen Daily Journal*, Monday, Dec. 15, 1913.

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Who has scored a sensational success at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, in the Pantomime "King Cole." Her two great hits of the evening were "My Southern Maid" and "You Made Me Love You," for the rendering of which she received an ovation.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Chas. Hyland.—Opening Boxing Day with the pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk." The company includes: Miss Ouida McDermott, Miss Ruby Roya, and Messrs. Jay Laurier and T. J. Campbell.

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Telford.; Asst. M., Messrs. Arthur Senior and T. Hamilton.—Miss Ella Shields is here this week, and her reception is of the heartiest. "The Wedgewood Classics" is a delightful representation; Horace Wheatley is a favourite here; smart juggling by the Morton Jewel Troupe, and clever tumbling by Darcy and La Due are prominent features on the programme. Also here are the Seltini Trio, in a novel acrobatic act; Baker and De Sales, humorists; and Potter, the American-Scot.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—M., Mr. Henry J. Baynton; Producer, Mr. Arthur Wellesley.—"Jack and Jill," now in its second week, is still going strong. Miss Constance Clive (Jill) sings her songs in catchy style, and is ably assisted by the Sisters Daune and Miss Ethel Callanan (Jack). Dan Whitley and J. Beauland cause many a laugh, their duet at the close being a huge success. Crowded houses are the order, and the pantomime looks like having a successful stay.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. Arthur Armstrong.—The Five Romans are scoring this week with their comdey creation, "The Gladiators"; Charlie Robinson is a local favourite, and has to respond to many encores; Hector and Lauraine are a smart duo; Rich Hayes brings an amount of original fun into a clever juggling act. Others in a strong programme are the Musical Boldens, Hazel Glade, Terse and Sharpe, and Len Harris (whistling and dancing comedian).

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. Chas. M. Jones.—Bellman and Poiuski, American comedians, sing and dance to everyone's satisfaction; Strength Bros. combine smart tumbling with clever footing; Beatrice Harford has a charming voice; Otto and Olga in their burlesque act are successful; Eddie Astor is highly original in his dancing and juggling act. Bert Eden (comedian), C. V. Neil (dancer), Dean and Domer (comedy duo) complete.

GLASGOW.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—Starring here this week is the Great Carmo, illusionist, impersonator, acrobatic, and equilibrist, etc.; the Four Sollies prove themselves highly amusing as musicians, acrobats, and comedians; a novel gymnastic performance by the Four Rio Brothers earned for them the plaudits of the house. Mr. Jas. Hare presents Geo. Langdon and Co. in "Wrong 'Uns," a mirth-provoking sketch which proves highly enjoyable. The excellence of the programme is sustained by Dalton Payne, a clever entertainer at the piano; Miss Molly Augerde, an American songstress; and Jenny Alexander, juvenile comedienne and dancer.

PALACE.—P. & M. Mr. Rich. Waldon; A. M., Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—A good all-round programme is submitted here this week, headed by a dramatic episode, "The Emperor's Sword," in which Edward Morris presents Mr. Gilbert Yorke and full London company. Other notable items include the Three Sisters Sprightly, the popular burlesque artistes, in their clever comedy skits; and the Three Arleys with their wonderful acrobatic and football dogs. Other artistes completing a good programme include Lily Hill, the Lancashire nightingale; Durazcoe and Azella, equilibrists and aerial gymnasts; Eddy Lawler, comedian and dancer; Millie and Gordon Trio in novel singing and dancing and acrobatic speciality; and Cambo and Castelle in novel musical act, "The Monkey and the Maid."

PANOPTICON.—P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; A. M., Mr. Wm. Sinclair.—This week we have a welcome visit of J. K. Macfarlane, a pawky Scotch comedian; Messrs. Mack and Peters, harmonising vocalists, in all their latest successes; also Miss Marie Roberts, a dainty chorus singer. The Brothers Shanion are a clever pair of comedians and expert dancers. Pictures complete.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; R. M., Mr. Armand Mascard.—This week's attraction at the Metropole is Mr. Stuart Lomath's Co. in "The Mill Girl and the Miner." Mr. Stuart Lomath plays the principal part, that of Dick Raylin. Mr. Frederick W. Freeman enacts Frank Heselgrave in a strong and telling manner; and Mr. Hugh Travers is seen to advantage as Felix Faunton. Mr. Charles Vernon as John Willie and Miss M. Blythe as Liza Ellen keep the fun going. Miss Dorothy Duncan plays Mary Vernon in a fascinating manner; Miss Florence Hamilton is very good as Gabrielle Rocheile; and Miss Ellen Owen Lomath as Aunt Maria also has a good reception. Other outstanding characters are Mr. Sam Roberts as Levi Spiderbaun and Mr. Eric Langley as Joe Sykes.

LYCEUM, LTD.—M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. E. Southworth.—That popular musical combination, the Four Royal Scots, are always sure of a good reception in Glasgow; Tom Seymour and Company in their capital little farce, "A Girl in Every Port," are amusing; "Uraliarty" is a comedy episode in two scenes supplied by Brule and Romsley; Theo Mauritus, handcuff king; W. Colley, Scotch comedian; Bryden, Currie, and Bristles in a diverting comedy act; Petro and Leon, trapeze artistes; and pictures complete.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. J. Crane; Mus. D., Mr. Dudley Powell.—The "Babes in the Wood," now in its second week, now runs with perfect smoothness.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—The revue, "I Should Worry," is being retained here. The special successes of the performance are Marie Dainton, Tom Payne, and Jake Friedman, and the rest of the company play up well to these artistes. Also in the bill are The Flying Martins; O'Gust, mimic; Christie Duo; The Persols; and the Columbia Comedy Trio.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; M., Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—That successful musical comedy "The Girl in the Taxi" is paying a short visit to Tyneside. The cast of Mr. Faraday's company includes Mr. Arthur Playfair as Baron Dauvray, who makes a distinct success; Miss Louie Yorke is a winsome Suzanne; and other parts are capably filled by Messrs. J. J. Dallas, Leo Sheffield, Fred Tooye, Marshall Sheppard, Percy Carr, and Misses Daisy Bindley, Gladys Ivery, and Hebe Bliss. The waltz by Miss Mynie Maye in the second act is an outstanding feature.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; M., Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mrs. Kimberley's company, "The Pet of the Ranch," is paying a return visit, and the cast contains a full-blooded Sioux Indian, who plays the native character. A. Austen Lea and Iya Lyndon appear successfully in the outstanding roles.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece.—Patrons of this house have a bill of all-round excellence. Charlie Manny and Bob Roberts cause much mirth; A. Emmett presents a musical novelty entitled "The Scarlet Rhapsody"; Miss Sheila O'More, the clever emotional actress, is seen to advantage in a thrilling character sketch; Mlle. Destrees and Layunta are accomplished tango exponents; Carl Haward, conjurer; Alf Chester, comedian; and Rem-Brandt, cartoonist, complete the programme.

PAVILION.—M., Mr. W. P. Wells.—This week variety interludes are introduced by Will Douglas and company in a laughter maker entitled "The Merry Demons"; Arthur Gill, comedian; and a musical treat is provided by the Christmas Carol Singers. Pictures complete.

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Yours faithfully,

DANDY GEORGE.

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"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT EDMONTON.

Mr. Edward Marris's Christmas pantomime of "Robinson Crusoe" was produced at the Edmonton Empire on Monday evening; and the curious adventures of the hero of Deniel Defoe's famous story will for some time to come interest the patrons, old and young, of Mr. Harry Bawn's handsome theatre.

Mr. Marris's version of the famous tale is divided into nine scenes, beginning with the port of Hull, from which place Robinson starts upon his adventurous voyage. Then follows the scene on board the vessel, the storm and wreck, the passengers finding themselves at the bottom of the sea in the company of mermaids and other strange beings. But eventually they effect a landing on the coast of the desert island, and there are blood-curdling encounters with cannibals, and the appearance of Friday, who finds a friend in Crusoe. In the various scenes plenty of bustling fun is introduced by the comedians, interspersed with songs and dances of a lively character by the lady members of a hard-working and thoroughly efficient company.

Mr. Bert Charles as John Willie Cursoe plays the part of one of Widow Crusoe's children in a spirit of rollicking humour. When his affectionate old mother asks John Willie to kiss her he invariably refuses, and displays a comical repugnance to obey the maternal request. At the bottom of the ocean this member of the Crusoe family encounters a mermaid whose "rapid" love-making rather alarms him, and though he at once discourages her matrimonial intentions, the marine lady does not give up hope, but persists in following him wherever he goes. Also prominent in the fun-making is Mr. Phil Lester, Robinson's "ma," a dame who loses no opportunities of adding to the merriment. Mr. Lester also sings with capital effect "Someone's coming to-night." Will Atkins is described as "a villain of the deepest dye," but though he persists in paying his unwelcome attentions to Polly, Robinson's sweetheart, and intimidates her in the rudest fashion, we have encountered far more ruffianly Wills than the Atkins of Mr. Eric Dudley, who, however, works hard throughout, and with successful results. Mr. Chas. Egbert is good as Captain Brassbound, and his mate, Billy Bung Hole, has a capital representative in Mr. Freddy Rigby. He and Mr. Bert Charles evoke much laughter in a burlesque football scene. Mr. Reg. Wakefield is an active Friday, and scores with a song, "Melinda," and dance. Mr. Herbert Pearce is an amusingly ferocious Cannibal King, with alert assistants in Mr. Walter Finney and Mr. Jack Daventry. Mr. H. C. Burgon plays well the part of Father Neptune, and Mr. Edgar Max is a nimble "Scraps," Crusoe's faithful dog. Robinson himself has an excellent representative in Miss Iris Belshaw, who puts plenty of vivacity into her embodiment of the rôle. She also sings in good style, being well applauded for her rendering of "What a game it is?" and "Away down south." Miss Nellie Turner as Polly is as winsome and dainty a heroine as one could wish for, and her unfailing brightness and verve contribute largely to the success of the production. Her songs, "Little Popsy Wopsy," and "Good-bye, summer," with dance, were both received with much favour. Miss Turner's troupe, the Dandy Six, were loudly applauded for their smart dancing, their performance proving a most attractive feature of the pantomime. Miss Irene Pearse makes a smart midshipman, and a Scotch song, "Make your mind up, Maggie," and dance in Highland costume, are greatly appreciated. Miss Grace Sweeting is an attractive representative of the Mermaid, and Miss Edie Martin also deserves mention for her capital embodiment of Matilda Crusoe. Mr. Max Reinhardt is the capable musical director; and the scenery is quite up to the mark.

SPORTING NOTES.

By SANTOI.

What a remarkable boom in horseracing there is throughout the world. The advent of the motor brought gloomy prophecies for the future of the horse, who, it was argued, in the natural course of events would eventually become extinct, or be at least a curiosity. Well, he was never so valuable as he is to-day. Fifty-five thousand guineas, it is said, was refused for Lemberg the other day, and this horse was not the best of his year, for although he won the Derby, Swynford walloped him in the St. Leger, and walloped him again, later on in life, proving that he was a better horse than Lemberg in every way.

The British thoroughbred, too, maintains his supremacy over all other nationalities; and, of course, the famous American strains all trace back to the English Stud Book. We find racing in India prospering, and racing in Australia prospering, and, in fact, the sport is progressing in the right way in every civilised country in the world, and wherever it is there is the British thoroughbred. The King-Emperor Cup has just been decided in Calcutta. An English-bred horse has won it—Kempion, formerly owned by the banker, Mr. T. Bating, whose colours Mushroom made famous. This Kempion, I believe, landed a big coup in the King-Emperor Cup. He belongs now to a powerful stable which races as "Mr. R. S. S.," is trained by an Oriental named Byramjee, and was ridden by the Australian jockey, P. Brown. The second horse in the Cup, Lumination, is also an English-bred one, and the third comes from Australia.

The financial state of horseracing, too, was never in sounder state in distant climes. Reports from Australia give some interesting items concerning the Melbourne Cup, which has been won by an outsider—Posinatus. Posinatus's owner had only recently leased the horse from his proprietor. He backed him at long odds, and over his success netted the comfortable sum of £32,000 without affecting the starting-price of the horse. A certain Australian backer—a scion of Israel, by the way—netted £36,000 over Posinatus's victory, also without affecting the price of the horse. He had backed him in a "double event" with Aurifer at 600 to 1. This, I think, proves that betting on horseracing in Australia, where the totalisator flourishes by the side of bookmaking, is heavy and important, and whatever the Puritans may say about betting, its existence is absolutely necessary to the Turf.

In this Melbourne Cup field there was a well-known English horse—Sea Prince. Now Sea Prince was a third-rate sort of animal in this country, but they reckon he was unlucky not to win the Melbourne Cup, and he has greatly distinguished himself in other races over there. In fact, despite a terrible temper, Sea Prince is looked upon as one of the leading handicappers in Australia. Either the form in Australia is a lot behind ours, or else the climate works wonders in English-bred horses when they get out there, for year after year we see horses that were moderate performers on the British Turf achieving brilliant deeds in the Colonies, India, and Australia.

The only Australian horse, in my recollection, which achieved fame after being imported from Australia to Europe was Merman, whom Lady de Bathe (then Mrs. Langtry) brought home with the express object of winning the Cesarewitch. Merman won the Lewes Autumn Handicap and the Cesarewitch, landing a very big stake for his owner, and later in life he won the Goodwood Cup and other good long-distance races. Mr. James Buchanan's enterprise in importing Noctuiform—a wonderful horse in Australia—was, however, disastrous, for Noctuiform was beaten time after time, and eventually figured in selling plates, his career ended tragically in a jumping event.

Hurst Park ended on Saturday most disastrously for most of us with the defeat of the odds on favourite Bernstein by Warbine, in the Welter Flat Race. It looked any odds on an animal of Bernstein's ability and speed beating the plater Warbine, and I believe if the race were run over again it would produce a different result. Warbine, however, was allowed to get so far away from his field in the early stages of the race that it would have required a hurricane to catch him. Woodland and the rest of the jockeys, no doubt counted upon Warbine compounding at the end of a mile or so, but they had overlooked the fact that he is a direct descendant of Carbine, and a son of the 1904 Cesarewitch winner, Wargrave, and therefore a stayer of the first water. He is a stayer of exceptional quality, though really moderate enough in other ways. It is next to impossible to tire the strain from which Warbine springs, and, indeed, he finished the two miles as strong as a lion. The bookmakers offered 6 to to 1 against Warbine up to within a quarter of a mile from home, and so general was [illegible] he would falter at the end, that very few punter took advantage of these liberal offers.

SELECTIONS.

Holiday racing is popular with the holiday crowd only. Price pinching is the order on high days and holidays, for, of course, the bookmaker's patrons belong for the most part to the uninitiated, and then there are not enough capable jockeys to go round when meetings clash in different parts of the country. At Kempton on Boxing Day I hope to see Mr. Tom Hartington's KATANGA successful in the Christmas Hurdle Handicap. She won running away at the last meeting, but, of course, this will be an appreciably stiffer task, and she may find some trouble in beating Lace, who is strikingly well handicapped. BURNING DAYLIGHT or SOPRANO should win the Kew Selling Hurdle, and FLATTERER the Selling Steeplechase. VALENTINE MAHER should win the Maiden Steeplechase, and FINNIGAN will, I suppose, pursue his victorious career in the Hampton Steeplechase. On Saturday MAID MARIAN will win again in the Three Miles Handicap Steeplechase, for she was cast into the handicap originally, and penalty and all has quite a moderate burden. MANILLA is expected to win the Twickenham Hurdle, and such a good one is GREY FLY at hurdling that I would not oppose her in the Mortlake Three-Year-Old Race. NIGHTINGALE LANE, if Piggott rides, will be worth support in the Chiswick Hurdle. At Wolverhampton on Friday back PERIWARD in the Shrewsbury Steeplechase and GLAZEBROOK in the Hurdle Handicap. HANNIBAL presents a gambling chance in the Christmas Steeplechase on Saturday, and SCHOOLMONEY should win the Thorneycroft Steeplechase.

In a Bristol notice recently Miss Dorothy Evelyn (songs at the piano) was misnamed Miss Dorothy Evans.

Mr. Sam Livesey has engaged a strong company for his forthcoming production at the Junction Theatre, Manchester. The cast for "A Heritage of Hate" will include Miss Molly Malim fresh from her success as the Little Damozel, who will create the leading part. Among other well-known artistes are Mr. Leonard Harrison, Mr. Frank Woodville, Mr. Cecil Grier, Mr. Billie Owen, Mr. Roy C. Craig, Miss Agnes Davidson, Miss Kathleen Gerrard, Miss Edith Giddens, and Miss Cassie Le Grand. Mr. Geo. E. Carleton will be general manager.

"DUTY."

Comedy, in One Act, by Seremas O'Brien, Produced, for the First Time, at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

Head Constable Mulligan—Mr. Arthur Sinclair
Sergeant Dooley .....Mr. Fred O'Donovan
Constable Huggins ....Mr. Sydney J. Morgan
Sweeny .....Mr. J. A. O'Rourke
Goggin .....Mr. J. M. Kerrigan
Mrs. Cotter .....Miss Una O'Connor

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene is the back kitchen of Mrs. Cotter's public-house on a Sunday night after hours, and we are introduced to two excellent types of free-and-easy carousers, Sweeny and Goggin, one of whom possesses an accordion. After they had partaken of several "pints," and discussed every subject from politics to religion, a knock comes at the door. Sweeny and Goggin are hurriedly hidden away in a side room just as Head Constable Mulligan enters. He is suffering from a chill, and does not refuse Mrs. Cotter's invitation to a drop of whisky. He in turn is terrified by the arrival of Sergeant Dooley, and, in order to escape observation, hides in a coal hole. Sergeant Dooley is also troubled with a pain, and gains a little relief by imbibing mixed drinks. A sneeze in the coal hole betrays the presence of his hated superior officer, and after personal recriminations, they end by becoming the best of friends. They are interrupted by yet another knock from the police, and they take refuge in the invaluable coal hole. Then enters Constable Huggins, who also has a good excuse for indulging. Hearing a cough and a sigh from the coal hole, in the discharge of his duty, he insists on an investigation, which results in the two officers crawling out in a most humiliating position—now very intoxicated. They are then rudely interrupted by a racket outside the back door accompanied by weird strains from a melodeon. An amusing scuffle takes place, but the culprits are overwhelmed and hauled off in custody.

Head Constable Mulligan takes out his notebook and enters the charge against the delinquents, viz.: "Drunk and disorderly; assaulting the police and injuring their garments; using language calculated to raise a revolution and violently resisting arrest." He also informs Mrs. Cotter that he is duty-bound to report the case, and staggers off bearing the much-prized melodeon. Mrs. Cotter half sobbingly murmurs "Duty," and the curtain falls.

The piece is very funny from start to finish and there were loud cries for the author on the fall of the curtain.

Mr. Sinclair especially distinguished himself as Mulligan, and Miss Una O'Connor's acting of the part of the poor proprietress, Mrs. Cotter, was decidedly clever, and Constable Huggins was a very mirth-provoking personage in the hands of Sydney J. Morgan.

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Has been given to understand that it has been reported she has severed her connection with the FEMINA QUARTETTE in consequence of ill-health. Such is not the case, she is quite well, and attending to her professional engagements, and will positively appear at the CHISWICK EMPIRE on December 29th inst.

A BIGGER LIST OF STAR ACTS THAN ANY OTHER AGENCY IN THE WORLD — **DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY.**

FROM "THE ERA" CORRESPONDENTS ABROAD

AMUSEMENTS IN PARIS.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to A. KEYZER, 17, Villa Dupont, Rue Pergolese, Paris.)

"LES DEUX CANARDS."

Play, in Three Acts, by Tristan Bernard and Alfred Athis, Produced at the Palais-Royal on Dec. 3.

Léontine ..... Mlle. Cassive
Amélie ..... Mlle. Lavigne
Madeleine ..... Mlle. Debienne
Béjun ..... M. Germain
Gélidon ..... M. le Gallo
Le Commandant ..... M. Clément
Baron de Saint Amour ..... M. Lurville
Flache ..... M. Marchal
Larnois ..... M. Roze
La Chevillette ..... M. Palan

PARIS, Monday, Dec. 8.—This is a clever farce, worthy of the pen of that witty and able playwright, M. Tristan Bernard, and his friend and collaborator, Alfred Athis. "Canard" is the French for "duck," but water-fowls do not play a part in the work, for the term "canard," in this instance, means a low-class newspaper, otherwise a "rag." These two "rags" are "Le Phare," a red-hot Socialist paper that advocates the candidature of Béjun, a good-natured printer, and "La Torche," owned and run by the reactionary Baron de Saint Amour. Almost needless to say, both organs have been started solely for electioneering purposes. The strange part about the affair is that, unknown to anybody, both papers are edited by the same man, who writes revolutionary articles in "Le Phare," under the name of Gélidon, and, as Montillac, becomes a staunch conservative in "La Torche." Like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde he leads a dual existence, for as Gélidon he is Béjun's right hand and the lover of Béjun's fascinating wife, Léontine; whilst as Montillac he is a constant visitor at the house of the Baron de Saint Amour, to whose pretty daughter, Madeleine, he pays court. Gélidon's double life is fraught with danger, inasmuch as Léontine is of a fiery and jealous disposition, and vows to be avenged should he prove faithless. At last, however, the secret leaks out. Gélidon has insulted Montillac in one of his articles, and the Baron de Saint Amour insists on Montillac challenging his opponent. Blood alone can wipe out this slight to the Conservative party. The scenes that follow baffle description, and the whole of the third act is taken up with this impossible duel, where there is only one principal. Driven in a corner, Gélidon is compelled to own that he and Montillac are one person, whereupon he is rewarded with the hand of the charming Madeleine. As to the fiery Léontine, she has transferred her affections to a retired Captain, who, although mortally frightened of her, consents to become her lover. The work is admirably played by a good all-round company.

There is no truth in the report that the Chatelet Theatre will be taken over by an English company, and the management of that house is indignant that this story should have found its way into the London press.

"LE CHEVREFEUILLE."

Play, in Three Acts, by M. Gabriele d'Annunzio, Produced at the Porte-Saint-Martin, on Dec. 14.

Pierre Dagon ..... M. Le Bargy
Ivain de la Coldre ..... M. Pierre Lenoir
Laurence Dagon ..... Mlle. Berthe Bady
Aude ..... Mlle. Henriette Roggers
Hélissant ..... Mlle. Nelly Cormon
L'Hirondelle ..... Mlle. Andrée Pascal

Paris, Monday, Dec. 15.—M. d'Annunzio has many admirers, yet there are many who consider his work too "hazy" to be pleasant. The word "hazy" certainly can be applied to "Le Chèvrefeuille" ("Honeysuckle"), produced at the Théâtre de la Porte-Saint-Martin. The story is terribly entangled, and the philosophy is anything but clear. It is a sombre drama, and the people in the play are uncanny. When the story opens the family de la Coldre are meeting together on the third anniversary of the death of the father, a man worshipped by all, and who is supposed to have met his death by foul means. Aude, the daughter of the house, a strange girl with weird hallucinations, is imbued with the idea that her father was killed by Pierre Dagon, her stepfather, and, like a second Hamlet, she vows to be avenged on him. As to Pierre, he seems to throw a spell over the women he meets. Thus we hear that he has been the lover of his friend's wife, whom he afterwards married; also the lover of Hélissant, his stepdaughter-in-law, and that he has at one time even had a powerful attraction for Aude. We further learn that he did kill his friend, a sick man, at the latter's request, on the principle that "friendship gives the right to kill." This opinion, however, is not shared by the other members of the household, for in the last scene Laurence, Pierre's wife, wrenches the dagger from Aude that she keeps concealed in her dress and stabs her husband. Despite its shortcomings, the work met with an excellent reception, on account of its really picturesque setting. It was very finely acted.

The Théâtre de l'Œuvre has given us a French adaptation of Synge's well-known comedy, "The Play Boy of the Western World." The venture proved a mistake, for this typically Irish production, with its atmosphere impregnated with Irish sentiment, has a weird charm as long as the dramatis personæ express themselves in their native tongue. Translated into French, under the title of "Le baladin du Monde Occidental," the charm vanished. The Paris audience was puzzled, an dfor a long time did not know whether the boy, who boasted that he had killed his father, had to be taken seriously.

AMUSEMENTS IN CAPE TOWN.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to Mr. JOHN HARDWICK, 60, Queen Victoria-street, Cape Town.)

Nov. 15.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Closed. Re-opens on the 24th inst. with the Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton Co. in "Kismet."

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—With a complete change of artistes the popular manager has once more scored a success. An old favourite reappeared in the person of clever Miss May Edouin. Arthur McWatters and Grace Tyson, accomplished American artistes, followed in a 1913 revue. The Golden Athlones, in a statuary act, was one of the most successful turns of the evening. Cramp and Hamilton are a pair of comedians of more than averge merit. Other good turns are Miss Gloria Mayne, American soprano; Miss Kitty Beresford, comedienne; and Vivant and Vivante, comedy entertainers.

Nov. 28.—TIVOLI.—The weekly change of artistes was made at the Tivoli last night. The star turn of the evening was supplied by Karlo's educated pony and dogs. Murfayne, the king of xylophonists, did much to justify his title. The Three Nelson Girls supplied a bright dancing turn; and the Three Shontons, who are on a return visit, are better than ever.

Mr. Max Brunell, the rising young composer, is well abreast of the Tango obsession, having supplied two dances in this form to the Celestes (Ernest Belcher and Dorothy Edward), who are featuring them with great success. Mr. Brunell is also composer and accompanist to Herbert and Lily St. John in their popular Tango demonstrations.

AMUSEMENTS IN BERLIN.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to Miss E. M. HOOK, Berlin, W. Gasteinerstr. 14.)

BERLIN, Dec. 1, 1913.—Bernard Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" achieved only a limited success at its première in the Kammerspiele on Tuesday evening.

Prosper Merimée's novel, "Carmen," which provided the libretto material for Bizet's well-known opera, has been remoulded by Georg Sil-Vara for use upon the dramatic stage, under the title of "Die Gitana." The play has been acquired by Reinhardt, and will have its première at the Deutsches Theater before the season ends.

"Das Piccadilly Mädchen" ("The Piccadilly Girl"), a three-act operetta by Teddy Grünberg, achieved an unmistakable success at its first production in the Kleines Theatre at Kiel.

The next exhibition arranged by the German Society, "Werkbund," will take the form of a unique, so-called "Artists' Theatre," to be erected by Henry van de Velde, which will be the scene of a series of model productions to be given throughout the whole of next summer by Germany's most distinguished stage-managers, such as Reinhardt, Barnowsky, Luise Dumont, and others. The theatre will have a three-part stage, and will seat about 600. This unique "exhibition" will take place in Cologne, and Germany's best actors and actresses will take part in the productions.

A great attraction is at present running in Circus Busch, where the "Last Days of Pompeii" are being realistically pictured in colossal pantomime setting, culminating in the terrific burial of the city under esuvius' burning lava. Georg Burkhardt-Foottit is the author of this magnificent new treatment of an ancient theme. Gorgeous scenes depict the luxurious home and public life of the Pompeians.

"GRAF EHRENFRIED."

Romantic Comedy, in Four Acts, by Otto Hinnerk, at the Royal Theatre.

Elector ..... Herr von Ledebur
Elfriede von Rofenberg ..... Frl. Arnstädt
Emming ..... Herr Eggelin
Berndt ..... Herr Paris
Harmo ..... Herr Winter
Amholt ..... Herr v. d. Henden
Ernet ..... Herr Zimmerer
Justizrat ..... Herr Leffler
Graf Ehrenfried ..... Herr Sommerstorff
Georg ..... Herr Pohl
Paul ..... Herr Zeisler
Ernst ..... Herr Tandar
Mömmel ..... Herr Mannstädt
Lise ..... Frl. Thimig
The Tutor ..... Herr Vollmer
Josef ..... Frl. Feist
Michel ..... Frl. Jährling
Christian ..... Frl. Heisler II.
Judges ..... Herr Stange, Hohenstein, Herr Will, Herr Ettlich
Officers ..... Herr Ungermann

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—Whatever else may be said in favour of this "romantic comedy," even its admirers must surely admit that it contains little true comedy from beginning to end. The play is poetic, but, like its hero, dreamy, fantastic, inevitably suggestive of its author's principal sphere of activity: Dr. Otto Hinnerk, the playwright, is staff-physician of a nerve sanatorium near Basle.

Graf Ehrenfried, who is supposed to belong to the seventeenth century, is a typical German dreamer, of the species met with in stories of long-vanished epochs. He dreams constantly of a noble deed, of which he hopes one day to be the hero. Lost in his dreams, he remains blissfully unconscious of the realities of life, of the ruin into which his ancestral home has fallen, of his lack of fortune, and even, at times, of his lack of sufficient food. Graf Ehrenfried dreams, too, of the possible future recovery of the large estates of which his father, through an unjust legal verdict, was deprived. What with his dreams, his vague hopes, and the efforts of his few remaining retainers—among them a touchingly faithful old henchman, Georg—to maintain about his person an atmosphere of reverent ceremony, his world of illusions deceives and satisfies him utterly. One day Fate brings him the opportunity for his noble deed. He heroically avails himself of the chance to save the life of the Elector, his ruler. But instead of finding himself the centre of a wave of gratitude and hero-worship, he is mistaken, to his utter astonishment, for an adventurer, not inspired by noble motives, but acting in self-interest. It is supposed that he has himself instigated the attack upon the Elector, in order to reap the reward of saving his life. Another shock completes his awakening from his dreamy life of theatrical idealism. A beautiful and wealthy woman, heiress of the very estates of which his father was defrauded, brings him bitter disappointment in a heart affair.

Count Ehrenfried's innocence in the matter of the attack upon the Elector is subsequently firmly established, but he has had enough of the world and of noble deeds, and is content to return to his ruined castle, where he is finally made happy by Lise, the schoolmaster's charming daughter, who has long secretly loved and ministered to him.

The excellent acting of the Royal Theatre's Company did much to support and bolster up the weak places of the work, and to infuse some element of jollity into its rather melancholy atmosphere.

Other premières of the week were Ernst Hardt's "Schirin und Gertraude," at the Deutsches Künstlertheater, August Strindberg's "Sheet Lightning" at the Kammerspiel, and Hermann Stein's "Sky Bummlers" at the Walhalla.

AMUSEMENTS IN JOHANNESBURG.

(All communications for this column should be addressed to Mr. THEO. J. HOLZBERG, Box 4,187, Johannesburg, S.A.)

Nov. 20.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — L., Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—The Wheeler-Edwardes Gaiety Co. have been doing excellent business with "The Girl in the Taxi." Great praise is due to Mr. Richard Teasdale (Pomarel), Mr. Harold Thorley (Rene), Mr. Reggie Grey (Hubert), and Miss Gracie Sinclair (Suzanne), and the other members of the company.

STANDARD THEATRE. — L., Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Mr. Oscar Asche's season concluded with a revival of "Kismet," and excellent business was done. Mr. Henry Herbert and the Stratford-on-Avon Players opened on Monday with "She Stoops to Conquer." A very warm welcome awaited Mr. Herbert. Tis Tony is an admirable piece of work, and we are amazed at his wonderful versatility. His next producetion is "Henry VIII."

PALLADIUM.—M., Mr. Dan Thomas.—The Hoffman King Co. have been doing excellent business with "Jane Shore." Mr. Hoffman and Miss King are highly praised by the Press. Active rehearsals are now on for the pantomime, in which Mr. Thomas plays a comedy part.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. Ed. A. Pickering.—An excellent company, headed by La Estrellita, holds the boards. Business has been good.

AMUSEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to Mr. R. GARNET WALCH, Rubra, Surrey Hills, Melbourne.)

Nov. 11.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Sole P., G. Willoughby, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Stanley Grant.—A full house witnessed the revival of the exciting Western drama, "At Cripple Creek," here on Saturday evening. The cast, an excellent one, was as follows:—Joe Mayfield (Cyril Mackay), Martin Mason (Vivian Edwards), Manuel Alvarez (Herbert Leigh), Belle Gordon (Elwyn Harvey), Reggie Harwood (Arthur Shirley), Little Tasso (Alice Jerrems), Maggie Mason (Nell Holroyd), Dynamite Ann (Marie D'Alton), and Wahketah (Horace Nightingale). The drama was followed with close interest throughout.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Phil Finkelstein.—"The Arcadians" on Saturday night was played to a packed house. The genuine burlesque and comedy features of the production, though they have been so often presented, were as fresh as ever. The last five nights are announced. On Saturday next the military musical play, "Autumn Manœuvres," will be staged.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. G. H. Smith.—A brilliant house witnessed the performance of "A Butterfly on the Wheel," presented by Mr. Lewis Waller and his English company, for the first time in Melbourne, on Saturday evening. As Roderick Collingwood Mr. Lewis Waller acted with spirit and the necessary consuming passion, and with that finish we must always associate with his performances. Miss Madge Titheradge made a dainty Peggy. Her acting throughout was natural and convincing. Mr. Halliwell Hobbs as Admaston was admirable, his clear voice and commanding manner suiting the part perfectly. Mr. Evelyn Beerbohm made Lord Ellardine a lifelike character; Mr. Frank Woolfe was excellent as Sir Robert Fyffe, K.C.; Miss Alma Vaughan made a handsome Lady Atwell. Minor characters were satisfactorily played by Miss Marianne Caldwell, Messrs. John Bruce, R. Dane, N. Joy, R. Gordon, E. Todd, O. Powis, A. F. Thompson, J. Doubleday.

BIJOU THEATRE.—L., Mr. Harry Corson-Clarke.—Mr. Harry Corson-Clarke and his comedy company concluded a successful season here on Saturday evening. There was a packed house, and the laughable comedy, "What Did Tomkins Do?" went with a swing from start to finish.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. and Direction, Mr. William Anderson; B. M., Mr. G. Homan Barnes.—The American Musical Burlesque Company continues to attract large houses here with the musical comedy, "A Day at the Races." On Saturday evening there was a bumper house, and the audience were kept laughing from the rise to the fall of the curtain.

RICKARDS' OPERA HOUSE.—Governing D., Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh; B. M., Mr. Frederic Aydon.—Gene Green, described as the "Emperor of Rag-time," made his first appearance here on Saturday night, and met with a tremendous reception from a packed house. Du Calion gave a clever performance on a 20ft. ladder. The turn was a novel and entertaining one, and should meet with great favour from patrons here. Other performers meeting with success here include the Eight Saxonnes, Reynolds and Donegan, Lillie Langtry, Vande and Veine, Hill and Whitaker, Alberto and company, Frank Fox, and Joe Fenton's Athletes.

The Greater J. D. Williams' Amusement Company have appointed Mr. W. Barrington Miller General Manager for their various picture theatres in Melbourne and suburbs. Mr. Miller has long been known in Melbourne as a capable and courteous business manager.

AMUSEMENTS IN SYDNEY.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to E. LEWIS SCOTT, 65, Renwick-street, Leichardt, Sydney, N.S.W.)

Nov. 4.—Quinlan's grand opera season at Her Majesty's Theatre is an undoubted success, each succeeding night having a fresh opera, splendidly mounted and most capably done by every principal and member of chorus and orchestra. The last two nights have brought old favourites back in "Faust," "Carmen," and "Aida," all heartily welcome. Mr. Thomas and Miss Thornton are the newest and most successful of the principal vocalists.

A new dramatic rendering of the old Australian story, "For the Term of His Natural Life," was staged at the Adelphi by Mr. George Willoughby's dramatic company on Saturday, and every point made by Marcus Clarke was sharpened and thrust home by those to whom the characters were allotted. Mr. George Cross was most praiseworthy in depicting Rufus Dawes (Richard Devine); Mr. Victor Leslie was a good drunken cleric as Rev. John North; and Mr. Frank Crossley made Mr. Meekin, the gaol chaplain, just sufficiently stupid. Gabbett, the convict, had Charles Taylor to exhibit his horrible details. Miss Muriel Dale, Miss Helen Fergus, Miss Fanny Erris, Miss Ina Alston, Miss Marie Wharton, and Miss Vera Remee all contributed valuably in the telling of the story, and the martinet, Captain Frere, was introduced to us most effectively by Mr. T. W. Lloyd. The play was well staged by Mr. George Willoughby.

Jansen, the illusionist, is still filling the auditorium at the Royal; "Within the Law" is making a long stay at the Criterion; and Mr. Allen Doone keeps "Barry of Ballymore" full of merit and music at the Palace.

At the Tivoli Gené Greene, the rag-time songster, is nearing the close of his most interesting season, and McLoughlin and Flynn were heartily welcomed back. Cooke and Rotherts earned the plaudits of a big house, and the rest of the vaudeville performers gave their usual turns to mutual satisfaction.

At the National Amphitheatre, among the new performers were the Two Storeys, who introduced some novelty piano playing and other quaint musical performances. Caller and Emery presented a neat little musical comedy. Caller is a good tenor.

The proposed Shakespeare Carnival is likely to be postponed till April 27, as the date now fixed will be amid the next Parliamentary election turmoil.

The directors of the New Hippodrome at Golders Green have appointed Mr. Ernest G. Oram as chef d'orchestre, a position he has held at the King's Theatre, Southsea, for the past five years.

The forcible speech of Mr. J. R. Huddlestone at the recent meeting of the Blackpool Winter Gardens will be excellent reading for shareholders. Mr. Huddlestone pointed out that the company had spent nearly £60,000 out of revenue in improving and adding to its property during the last fifteen years, while during that time an average annual dividend of 4 per cent. had been paid. His statement generally was so favourable and convincing that even Councillor Brooks, an uncompromising critic, expressed his satisfaction.

Mr. Huddlestone has since been given a place on the board of directors—a very wise step, for Mr. Huddlestone all along has put his whole heart and soul into the re-invigoration of the company, and he has therefore fully earned the more honourable, even if more responsible, position given him by his fellow-directors' congratulations.

BITS ABOUT BOOKS.

Wisdom While You Grin.*

The chief qualities of this book are its shrewdness and its humour. In its way, it is a revelation. It is too often the fate of the actor to be judged by the characters that he represents. We are too apt to forget that behind the mask is often a man of quite a different character from that which he usually depicts. All the Grossmiths are clever outside their profession, and essentially serious, in spite of their success as comedians—or rather, the seriousness explains the success; for, as has been often remarked, it takes a clever man to play the fool. We might have expected from Mr. George Grossmith a trivial, trashy, and superficial book; and, behold, with the assistance of Mr. Stanley Naylor, who has exercised very judiciously his privilege of selection in noting down Mr. Grossmith's dicta, we get a most pithy collection of witty anecdotes and sound apothegms. Indeed, the engraved illustrations, which are very amusing in their own way, reminding us of Mr. Grossmith the comedian, Mr. Grossmith the inimitable impersonator of imperturbable idiots, almost jar on our reading of some of these pleasant pages of worldly wisdom.

For Mr. Grossmith shows himself in this book a practical philosopher. And, like many other philosophers, he illustrates his arguments by anecdotes. It is a limited philosophy, this of his, but, as far as it goes, it is sharp and sound. With all that the lecturer says on love making and married life on and off the stage we cordially agree. Good, too, are the chapters on going to the devil, on champagne tastes on beer incomes, and on the marriage market. Mr. Grossmith hits the essential point, when he says: "In Society to-day what profiteth if a man, or woman either, if he or she hath blood as blue as the Mediterranean in his or her veins, but at the same time hath not wit and charm?" This version of "a man's a man for a' that," especially commends itself to actors and all men who have to do something before their personality can be acknowledged. The illustrations are varied and agreeable; and Messrs. Stanley Paul have turned out the book quite neatly and nicely.

* "Gaiety and George Grossmith. Some Reflections on the Serious Business of Enjoyment." Chronicled by Stanley Naylor. One vol. Stanley Paul and Co.

The Genius of Insanity.*

The late Mr. Nisbet wrote a book on "The Insanity of Genius," and Strindberg would have served well as an instance of the combination of originality and madness. He was several times married, and several times in a lunatic asylum. But his work was not so much incoherent, as insanity is, as morbid and pseudo-scientific. His plays hang together, and are quite rational, concrete, and actable. Those in the present series are less grim and gruesome than some of his sexual studies. "Swanwhite," which Strindberg wrote under the influence of Maeterlinck, and founded on researches in Swedish folk-lore, is a very beautiful and weirdly fantastic fairy-tale, full of quaint fancy, and beautifully conceived and worked out. It has been triumphant on the German stage, as it richly deserved to be. "Simoom," a version of which has been performed in England, has much of the intentional cruelty and love of horror which Strindberg so often shows. It is strong, but ghastly. "Debit and Credit," "Advent," and "The Thunderstorm" are more merciful to humanity; the satire is less relentless. It is interesting to know that the last-named belongs to what the author called his "Inferno" period, in which he was struggling to rid himself of an attack of semi-insanity. It is full of Swedenborgian symbolism, extremely curious, and didactic in essence. In producing "The Thunderstorm" and "After the Fire," two domestic plays of dry, sharp, cynical tone, the author inaugurated on the Swedish stage the abolition of "intervals" and the simplification of scenery. It would be interesting to know what influence Miss Harriet Bosse, the Swedish actress, who was Mrs. Strindberg from 1901 to 1904, had on the dramatist's moral and mental development. Mr. Edwin Bjorkman has done his work of translation carefully and well, though the occasional introduction of bits of American slang is irritating to the British reader. The task of reproducing in English the peculiar music of the original of "Swanwhite" was a most difficult one, and in this Mr. Bjorkman has succeeded as well as could be expected.

* "Plays by August Strindberg." Translated by Edwin Bjorkman. Third Series. One vol. Duckworth.

Jimmy's Second Series.*

Mr. Glover is his own most formidable rival. "His Book" was a most entertaining collection of remembrances, and the volume before us is only by comparison less interesting and amusing. Mr. Glover's reminiscences cover the whole of theatrical Bohemia of thirty years or so since; and it would be difficult to add to his anecdotes, which cover the whole of the field. It is refreshing to find one of the old brigade still "going strong," and dwelling with such zest on the follies and failings of past times. The chapter on "The Comic Song" is particularly rich in information, and will especially appeal to our variety readers. Many of the stories are familiar to the elderly actor who knew his Bohemia, say, in the '70 or '80 period; but to the average outsider they will be as fresh as they are piquant. Some of the stories will be quite new to both.

* "Jimmy Glover and His Friends." One vol. Chatto and Windus.

More Shakespearean Study.*

There is nothing strikingly original in this book of Shakespearean analysis and investigation, but lovers of the Bard of Avon's genius will be pleased to hear their own estimates confirmed, and to find in the writer a thorough-going Shakespearean enthusiast. It is not the fault of the author of that excellent work, "A Study of the Drama," that he now attacks a theme which has been dealt with pretty exhaustively by others. As Mr. Matthews says, the mass of Shakespearean criticism is now overwhelming; and it says much for the book under review that it is readable in spite of its size and the leisurely, elaborate way in which the writer deals with his subject. The map of London at the end of the sixteenth century, and the title-page engraving of the statue of Shakespeare by J. Q. A. Ward in Central Park, New York, are acceptable additions.

* "Shakespeare as a Playwright." By Brander Matthews. Longmans, Green, and Co.

The Russian Ballet Reviewed.*

It was inevitable that the Russian ballet should have its historians, commentators, and essayists. This book, while being chiefly an appreciation of Nijinsky's talent, is also a criticism on the form of entertainment in connection with which he appears. Mr. Whitworth rightly places the date of the rise in importance of the Imperial ballet at St. Petersburg to "well on in the nineteenth century." He traces the origin of the new spirit in Russia partly to Mr. Gordon Craig, partly to Professor Reinhardt, and greatly to the efforts of M. Serge de Diaghilav—who arranged for the company he organised to visit Rome, Paris, Berlin, "and finally England." When in 1911 Nijinsky left the more conservative Imperial Ballet to join the new movement, the success of the latter was certain. Mr. Whitworth notes the "preoccupation with a sort of agonised sensuality," and also the "definite trend towards dramatic emphasis" which distinguish the new ballet from its predecessors. As he says, in a ballet the dance, after all, is the thing; and in the long run dramatic intensity can only be maintained at the expense of a weakening in the choreographic interest. This, indeed, is the "rock ahead" of the Russian ballet. It is one of those "violent delights" that, if carried to extremes, may end by wearying us. That the point of exhaustion has not yet been reached, the sustained enthusiasm of the public for the work of Nijinsky and Pavlova proves.

* "The Art of Nijinsky." By Geoffrey Whitworth. One vol. Chatto and Windus.

AMUSEMENTS IN DURBAN.

(All communications for this article should be addressed to Mr. N. M. HART, 35, Devonshire-avenue, Berea, Natal.)

Nov. 15. — HALL-BY-THE-SEA. — African Theatres Trust, Ltd.; L. M., Mr. J. Barnett.—The principal attraction here is the La Mazi Trio, American comedy acrobats, whose business is entirely new. Signorina Tina di Roma is a brilliant pianist; and Barnes and Lee, in their scena, score an immediate success. Mlle. Liane D'Eve is the star attraction for the coming week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The management announce the three last performances of the London Répertoire Company, under the direction of the African Theatres Trust, Ltd., next week, when "Saints and Sinners" will be produced. Mr. Adler, of Adler and Sutton, is the enterprising business-manager.

CRITERION THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. G. Tucker.—Miss Alice Raymond and her Players, including Signor Enrico Altani, the Italian operatic tenor, were a great attraction here. The act, described as "A Night in Egypt," was a magnificent one. Reg. Adair and Kitty Dawn, in a vocal act, were popular. Zenora, the upside-down miracle, gave a wonderful display. Elfie Faye, American comedienne, is topping the bill next week.

Nov. 25.—CRITERION THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. G. Tucker.—On the night of my visit the star attraction, Elfie Faye, the American comedy artiste, who had been indisposed, was sufficiently recovered to appear, and made a decided success. Wee Dot and Doris, two clever children, gave a very good turn. The Wee Dot as a comedy provider was capital, and Doris, in her "straight" business with her pleasing voice, brought down the house. Woodward and Page, in a cycling and acrobatic tumbling act, made good. Their performance ranks with the best seen in South Africa.

HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—African Theatres Trust, Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Barnett.—Liane d'Eve, singing in Italian, French, and giving that always popular song, "My hero," from "The Chocolate Soldier," was largely responsible for the crowded houses during her visit here. The Lawsons, in an acrobatic juggling act, in which the lady is particularly smart, were popular from the start. Jack Heath, character dame comedian, created much laughter. Several excellent films, together with the popular Jimmy Lowndes' admirable orchestra, made up an all-round good show.

Miss Mabel Burrell has been engaged by Messrs. Craig and Bulmer to play the part of the Woman in "Should a Woman Tell?" on tour with B Co., opening at Kingston on Dec. 29.

By a curious coincidence through three different applications "Rozel's" daughter, niece and nephew are engaged in the same pantomime, playing Alice, Dick and the Cannibal King respectively.

The news of the death of Mr. Robert Wilkins, advertising inspector since 1886 of the New Theatre, Oxford, will be received by the profession with profound regret. The late Mr. Wilkins had been ailing for some months past, but his death, which took place at his residence, 44, George-street, Oxford, on the 13th, at the age of 64, cast a gloom over the whole of the city. Mr. Wilkins always sustained the highest traditions of the profession in his business transactions, and he possessed an unfailing courtesy.

The many friends of the late Victor Widdicombe will be interested to know that his son Harold has adopted his father's profession, and is appearing with Mr. Charles Windermere's company in "The Headmaster." So successful has he been that he is re-engaged for the spring tour. His mother, Clara Widdicombe, has quite recovered from her recent accident, and hopes to be working early in the New Year.

At the Sunday League concerts at the Palladium and elsewhere, Miss Florence Smithson has been giving delightful expression to a little novelty encore number which has been specially written for her by Thos. Courtice, her late manager and secretary. The number which is entitled "Good night, ladies and gentlemen," is delightfully artless, being merely a little speech of thanks for her kind reception set to music. The melody, which is by Francis Dorel, is in extremely happy vein.

Mr. Hickman-Smith's book, "One Hundred Humorous Short Stories," recently issued by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, is commanding a very extensive sale. This is readily understood when one has perused the little volume and noted the number of good tales contained therein. Mr. Charles Willmott has written a breezy introduction.

Mr. Frank Weston, the manager of the Hippodrome, Birkenhead, is deservedly popular, and his benefit is always looked upon in that town as one of the events of the year. At his recent bespeak Mark Sheridan, the breezy and witty comedian, was the chief turn, and Miss Maidie Scott was really excellent in "Mother is a leader of Society." Mr. Weston, at an interval in the proceedings, was presented with a handsome Sheraton clock from the theatre staff.

THE NEWEST REVUE

Instantaneous Hit.
Every Song Encored.

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BRILLIANT CAST AND CHORUS,
including Henry Adnes,
Cissie Vaughan, May Ray.

This Week - EMPIRE, ROTHERHAM.
Next Week - PLAYHOUSE, GLASGOW.

FILM GOSSIP.

New Picture Hall for Gateshead.

A new picture hall, situated in Bewick-road, Gateshead, was opened recently. It is a spacious and well-fitted building of brick with stone facings. The interior arrangements have been made with a view to comfort, tip-up cushioned chairs being provided, and there is a continuous current of fresh air. There are six exits, that will allow the house to be cleared in three minutes. There is sitting accommodation for about 1,400 persons. Waiting rooms are provided, and these will be found serviceable in bad weather. The main contractors were Messrs. Middlemas Bros., of Newcastle. The music will be supplied by the Clarendon Orchestra.

New Cinema at Worksop.

A new picture palace, called The Town Hall Cinema, was opened here on Thursday, Dec. 11, by Messrs. Foster Bros., of Earby, Yorks. There is accommodation for 400, at popular prices. The proprietors have installed a Kraum machine, &c., and a silver screen. The hall is under the management of Mr. A. Attwood. The principal film for the opening was "Ivanhoe," which is closely connected with this district. Two shows nightly are to be given, with matinées.

New Picture Palace at Lee.

The Imperial is the name given to the new hall opened by the Lee Cinematograph Theatre Company, Ltd., recently. The opening was attended by the Aldermen and Councillors of the borough, and was largely patronised. The building is commodious and well appointed, being fitted with plush tip-up seats, and capacity for seating about 800. Mr. S. Hope Phœnix, who has been in the cinema business for many years, is to be the manager.

The Electric Theatre, Bath, after being closed for several months for alterations and redecoration has been reopened under new management.

Mr. Charles Urban has several big kinemacolor surprises in store for the New Year. These include "Round the world in two hours," said to be the most expensive film ever produced, the cost of its production being over £40,000; "Armies and navies of the world"; and two other films, "The world, the flesh, and the devil" and an adaptation of "Little Lord Fauntleroy," the production cost of each of which is in the same region.

The management of the Olympia Cinema, Newport (Mon.), have reason for congratulation on the bumper houses which have attended their latest productions in the shape of star films. Even this big hall was inadequate to accommodate the crowds who wanted to see "The House of Temperley" recently, and full houses have been the rule at all the shows this week.

The Exclusive Supply Co., of 4, Gerrard-street, have secured the sole control for the British Isles of the cinematographic version of Ouida's novel, "Moths." The touching story has been rendered to perfection in this film, Miss Maud Fealey, the well-known American actress, playing the leading rôle. This version of "Moths" has been published with the consent of the editors of Ouida's novels, and is, therefore, the only genuine production of the novel.

The latest addition to the long list of Sheffield Picture Halls is the Unity Palace, a spacious building situated in the Hillsbro'-road. The auditorium will seat over 1,200 persons in balcony, stalls and pit. A stage with a pretty proscenium, scenery, and tableau curtains (with full orchestra) are commendable features. The general manager is Mr. Harry Bramwell, for many years at the Theatre Royal, and lately manager of the Upperthorpe Palace.

The Bath Electric Theatre Co. in their report state that the directors recommend the payment of an 8 per cent. dividend.

Mr. Stewart C. Phipps is the musical director at the Clarence Picture House, Newport's newest cinema theatre. Mr. Phipps, who has been brought over from the Pier Pavilion, Douglas, Isle of Man, is a son of Prof. Alexander Phipps, Mus.Bac., of London and Liverpool, and is a first-class violinist. Under his direction the musical programmes will undoubtedly be a very attractive feature of the entertainments.

Moss' Empires, Ltd., have secured the exclusive showing rights of the Carpentier v. Wells film. Every detail from the commencement of training of both boxers up to the sensational knock-out blow is graphically illustrated. The pictures will be shown at the Empire, Birmingham, at all performances throughout the week.

"The Life of Shakespeare."

A costly film of the chief incidents in the life of William Shakespeare is being produced by the British and Colonial Kinematograph Co., partly at their studios at Walthamstow and partly at Stratford-on-Avon. Great care has been taken to ensure historical accuracy. With this end in view the producers consulted the leading works on the subject, and it was decided that the guiding authorities should be the works of Sir Sidney Lee, Halliwell, and Capt. Curling. Mr. J. B. McDowell (managing-director of the B. and C. Co.) and Frank Growcott (who was for eight years with Mr. Benson's Shakespearean company) are producing the film, which will consist of approximately 150 scenes.

All the important incidents of Shakespeare's life, from the age of 17 to the time when he left for London, are to be taken on, practically speaking, the very ground which he trod at Stratford-on-Avon. This has only been made possible by the courtesy of the Mayor, Sir Sidney Lee, chairman of the Shakespeare Memorial Institution; Mr. Flower, chairman of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund; Sir Henry and Lady Fairfax Lucy, of Charlecote Hall; and others, all of whom have evinced the greatest interest in the production. Special scenery had to be constructed for the interiors and Old London scenes, two of which were in use when we attended recently to see part of the production in progress.

When watching the picture as it is projected upon the screen, one might be led to believe that the actual photographing is accomplished at the same pace. But this, of course, is not so. In the case of such a picture as this, where strict accuracy is essential, probably only two or three scenes can be taken during the day. Last week but two scenes were photographed. The two producers, it seemed to us, were exceptionally hard to satisfy, judging from the number of rehearsals which were necessary before the actual scene was taken. The brief "Won't do" shows how much care is being taken to get the thing correct, and the amount of time and labour it is necessary to put into the production if a worthy picture is to be the result. The estimated cost of the film is over £4,000.

Extraordinary Scenes in a Pentre Theatre!
Crowds Besieging the Doors, unable to gain admittance!
Thrilling bursts of enthusiasm!
Remarkable demonstrations by packed audiences!

WHY? WHY?? WHY???

Because the management was fortunate enough to be the first in the field to book.

THE SUPER BIOSCOPE
THE REAL SPEAKING PICTURES.
The new sensation of the Cinema world!
New phase of the Bioscope!
New guise of the Drama!
No phonographs used!
The real living voices heard!
The real living actors seen!

As far ahead of other so-called speaking pictures as the aeroplane from the antiquated gas balloon.

A triumph! A revelation!

Secure your bookings managers before it is too late. The price will go up by leaps and bounds!

Vacant Jan. 5 and on with exceptions.

Address Manager, THE SUPER BIOSCOPE Co, Workmen's Hall, Pentre, S. Wales.

Opening of La Scala Picture Theatre, Dundee.

There was a large and representative attendance at the opening of La Scala Picture House at Dundee on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 9, when Lord Provost Urquhart performed the opening ceremony. The new theatre, which is situated in the Murraygate—now the busiest thoroughfare in the city—is a worthy addition to the entertainment houses of Dundee. The entrance vestibule to the spacious and luxurious hall has marble-lined walls and floor, opening through mahogany doors to the lower foyer, which leads to a handsome and roomy staircase. The foyer and staircase are finished with polished mahogany, and the walls panelled with tapestries which give the whole a dignified and restful appearance. The colour scheme of the interior of the theatre has been carefully carried out in subdued tones of old gold, browns, and purples. The floors are covered with beautiful carpets of a fine shade of purple, and the entire hall is seated with tip-up cushioned chairs covered with dark green velvet. There is seating accommodation for about 1,100 persons, but by using the fine wide promenades it is possible to entertain about 1,500 persons. The system of hidden and reflected light has been introduced, and this proves most restful to the eyes. Throughout the theatre the important departments of heating and ventilation have received careful consideration, and all appointments are of absolutely the latest patterns in the cinematograph world. There is an orchestra of eight, and the fact that a French mustel organ has been introduced shows that the directors are determined to give their patrons music of a high standard. Mr. Duncan R. Blair is the chairman of the La Scala Company, and Mr. A. G. Brown the superintendent and manager.

New Picture House for Greenock.

Another addition to the growing list of picture houses has been made by the erection of the B.B. Cinema House at Greenock, which was formally opened on Thursday afternoon in presence of a large number of invited guests. Situated at the corner of Argyle-street and West Stewart-street in close proximity to the main thoroughfare, it occupies an attractive position. The interior is roomy, comfortable, and choicely decorated in white and gold. There is seating accommodation for 1,300 persons, tip-up chairs being provided in all parts of the house. The Cinema House is being run on the continuous performance system, under the management of Mr. Frank L. Clayton, whilst the musical portion of the entertainment is under the direction of Mr. Ernest Crook.

"The Cloister and the Hearth."

Messrs. Hepworth's have recently produced a cinematograph version of Charles Reade's novel, "The Cloister and the Hearth." The story needs little introduction to the public. Naturally, it has been impossible for the producers to include every incident, but nothing of vital importance has been omitted, and a well-connected story is given. The production has been artistically mounted and dressed. The picture opens with the appearance of Gerard, destined for the Church, but desiring to be an artist, as he journeys to take part in the competition which afterwards gains him his desire. We see his meeting with Margaret, whom he marries, only to be separated by the burgomaster. His journey to Rome, and his meeting and consequent friendship for the adventurer, Denys, are shown. And so on through the book until, having taken the order of priesthood, he is sent out to preach. His meeting with his wife, Margaret, and their son after he had supposed them dead, and his difficult choice between the cloister and the hearth, make an appealing scene. The quality of the photography of the Hepworth Co. is well known, and in "The cloister and the hearth" they have produced a film quite up to standard.

"Sapho."

Presented recently at the Majestic Picturedrome, before an invited audience, this picture is founded upon Alphonse Daudet's well-known novel, "Sapho." It shows how the author traces the career of Jean Gausson, who, betrothed to his young and innocent cousin, leaves his country home to pursue his studies in Paris. There he meets "Fanny Legrand," who, charmed with his youthful ingenuousness, falls in love with him. To him she appears a wonderful woman, and at first all goes happily; but soon the rift appears. There are the inevitable quarrels, followed by the reconciliations. Gradually the young man is disillusioned, and the recriminations become more and more bitter. Finally he determines to leave her. Hearing, however, that he has been appointed to a Consular position in Peru, he goes back to tell Fanny of his luck, and asks her to accompany him. This she promises to do, but at the last moment decides otherwise, and Jean is left to face the world alone. The acting of the two principals is of the highest standard. Sapho being played by Miss Florence Roberts, who made that character famous in America. She has worthily upheld her reputation in the picture. Mr. Hull has also enacted his part in most forcible style. The film, which is in six reels, holds the interest throughout, the most remarkable scene for elaborate detail being the ball-room, where Jean first meets Fanny.

Edison's Kinetophone.

This latest invention of the great American scientist is now being shown at the Liverpool Palais de Luxe, and on Monday, at a Press gathering there, the audience expressed astonishment at the completeness of the new machine, which, by the way, was shown before the King and Queen on their recent visit to Knowsley. The accuracy with which various sounds are reproduced, such as the barking of dogs, a cornet being played, solos sung, &c., fairly astounded everybody, while a very striking feature was the perfect manner in which the voice synchronised with the lips of the singer or speaker. The new invention promises to revolutionise cinema houses.

Mr. H. H. Greenwood has been appointed manager of the New Picture House, Dewsbury, in place of Mr. Cyril Avondale.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

ANNIVERSARY.

MADDEN—OLIVER.—Michael Madden to Annie Oliver, Dec. 21, 1912, at Stockton.

DEATHS.

BROWN.—On Dec. 22, 1913, at Brixton, Edwin Brown, aged 72. Deeply mourned by his daughters, Kate, Ada, and Beattie; also J. Alexandre and A. Laurie, sons-in-law. Dear old papa, may you rest in peace.

DAWSON.—At 3, Bickerton-road, Upper Holloway, N., on Nov. 15, Amy Elise Dawson, widow of Edward Francis Dawson (Frank Dames).

CORRI MONTAGUE.—Died very suddenly, of heart failure, at his residence, Bridge-street, Longriggend, Scotland.—Deepest sympathy from the entire company.

OULD.—Dec. 13, at Grahamstown, South Africa, Percy Edward, younger son of the late Charles Ould, and Director of Studies, Training College School of Music, Grahamstown, aged 45. (By cable.)

VICTOR.—On Dec. 14, 1913 (E. Beevor), Miss Emma Victor, who passed away at Ramsgate, daughter of the late Miss M. A. Victor, and the dearly beloved, most devoted mother of Marie Beevor, her heart-broken daughter. R.I.P. Interred at Finchley Cemetery.

IN MEMORIAM.

CULLING.—In affectionate remembrance of my dear wife (Ada Clare), who died Dec. 31, 1903. Otto C. Culling.

MELVILLE.—In loving memory of George Melville, the actor, who died Dec. 26, 1898.

Oh, Christ, He is the Fountain,
The deep, sweet well of love;
The streams on earth I've tasted,
More deep I'll drink above;
There to an ocean fulness
His mercy doth expand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
In Emmanuel's land.

Ever dearly remembered by his loving daughter Alice.

PETTITT.—In loving memory of Henry Pettitt, dramatic author, who died Dec. 24, 1893, at The Chestnuts, 352, Goldhawk-road, Hammersmith, W.

SNOW.—In loving memory of Ted Snow, who died on Christmas Day, 1903, age 76. Never forgotten by his widow and children.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish the following ladies and gentlemen many happy returns of the day:—

Lilian Earle—Wednesday, Dec. 24.
John P. Shinton—Wednesday, Dec. 24.
Marian Turner—Wednesday, Dec. 24.
Frank J. Pitt—Wednesday, Dec. 24.
Ivy Millais—Thursday, Dec. 25.
Harry Carr—Thursday, Dec. 25.
Beryl Hamilton—Thursday, Dec. 25.
Brandon Thomas—Thursday, Dec. 25.
Carlotta Anson—Thursday, Dec. 25.
Mrs. Leoni Clarke—Thursday, Dec. 25.
Charles Sugden—Friday, Dec. 26.
Mrs. M. Lucette Ryley—Friday, Dec. 26.
Adèle Levey—Friday, Dec. 26.
Nora Wallis—Friday, Dec. 26.
Will Cromwell—Friday, Dec. 26.
Fred Higham—Friday, Dec. 26.
Lena Flowerdew—Saturday, Dec. 27.
Bob Hutt—Saturday, Dec. 27.
Horace Stanley—Saturday, Dec. 27.
Archie Mills—Saturday, Dec. 27.
Cecil A. Collins—Saturday, Dec. 27.
Albert Gilmer—Sunday, Dec. 28.
Alvina Mining—Sunday, Dec. 28.
Isabel Bateman—Sunday, Dec. 28.
Olive D. Pitt—Sunday, Dec. 28.
Rudyard Kipling—Monday, Dec. 29.
Douglas Cecil—Monday, Dec. 29.
Olive Marston—Tuesday, Dec. 30.
Fred Eastman—Tuesday, Dec. 30.
Charles Quartermaine—Tuesday, Dec. 30.
Cecil Barrett—Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Messrs. Rivington and Howard wish to thank the numerous managers for their applications re dates for "Human Hearts." The sole booking for this play is in the hands of Macdonald and Young, 33, Lisle-street, W.C.

The business interests of Circus Busch, which have suffered particularly under this "strangulation act," have now been formally ceded by a contract extending over several years to Director Schumann, of the Circus Schumann. The director will no doubt be well able to take care of another circus enterprise since concluding his favourable contract with Professor Reinhardt, of the Deutsches Theater, for the transformation of the Circus Schumann into the "Theatre of the Five Thousand."

With his customary willingness to assist in every philanthropic object, Mr. G. E. Prance, of the Hippodrome, Devonport, very kindly allowed two children of Mr. Councillor Day J. Devonport to collect in aid of the Christmas Dinner (Children's) Fund at each performance, with the gratifying result that the fund will benefit to an amount exceeding £19.

W. Butcher and Sons, Ltd., of Camera House, Farringdon-avenue, have just issued an attractive little diary for 1914, full of interesting information. The letterpress includes Kinematograph notes and lantern notes, with a chapter dealing with the subject of illuminants. The tables include a ready reckoner for film hire, and the book indeed contains much that will be found invaluable to the picture exhibitor.

Derby's latest picture-house, the Cosy, was opened by Sir Thomas Roe, M.P., on Thursday last. Situated on the main road between the town and the station, the Cosy has an excellent site, and is, in itself, a compact and comfortable building. A roomy balcony, the lower part of which is fitted up as a lounge, is a feature of the theatre, which is up-to-date in every particular. This is the fifth picture theatre in Derby.

At the cinemas this year children will get two or three pantomimes in two hours or so, and see all the fun. True it is, they will get nothing of dialogue, nor "funny gags," but they will get the "effects" and music.

The New Gallery Kinema, in Regent-street, has framed a capital programme for this Christmas. "Here we are again" is the appropriate title for one special film, whilst for the older folk "Psyche," a legend which has withstood the stress of time, and which is one of the most beautiful Grecian phantasies yet pictured, will also be produced. There will be no drama in the programme of the New Gallery Kinema. All through will be pictures of jollity, and it will be a joy to the older folk to hear the youngsters laugh. The programme is a laugh from commencement to finish.

The Hepworth Manufacturing Co., Ltd., are presenting an extremely dainty and acceptable little gift this Christmas to their customers and exhibitors all over the country. They are sent with their very best wishes for the festive season in the hope that the recipients will find them both attractive and useful.

LATE ADVERTISEMENTS—UNCLASSIFIED.

HERBERT LEONARD and J. FRENCH'S
HERBERT LEONARD and J. FRENCH'S
HERBERT LEONARD and J. FRENCH'S
HERBERT LEONARD and J. FRENCH'S
HERBERT LEONARD and J. FRENCH'S
HERBERT LEONARD and J. FRENCH'S
Record Breaker.
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
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"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
Xmas Attraction, Victoria, Walthamstow.
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
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"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
"WHITE SLAVE LIFE."
New Year's Attraction, Queen's, Poplar, E.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 19 and 26.
Jan. 19 and 26.
Jan. 19 and 26.
Jan. 19 and 26.
Jan. 19 and 26.
Jan. 19 and 26.
to follow West London.
NEW and ELABORATE SCENERY and COSTUMES for Both Attractions.
A1 Company:—Ashley Page, Marion Denvil, Edward Curtis, Laura Dyson, and Herbert Leonard, &c. Address,
HERBERT LEONARD.
Victoria T., Walthamstow.

WANTED, a Carpenter, for Tour. Terms, height, references.
MARK BLOW,
Broadmead House, Panton-st., Leicester-sq.

WANTED, 'Cello and Violin. Open Dec. 29.
Terms and references.
DAY, Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.

WANTED, to Sell, canvas top, practically new; only used few months last season; size 82ft. by 42ft.; will accept £30. Reply to VICTOR BRANFORD, Palace, Whitehaven.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
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"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Only vacant dates:—
Jan. 26, Feb. 16, March 23, April 6.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
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"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

First vacant date:—
Feb. 9, Aug. 3, and on.

"SLAVES OF VICE."
"SLAVES OF VICE."
"SLAVES OF VICE."
"SLAVES OF VICE."
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"SLAVES OF VICE."
"SLAVES OF VICE."
"SLAVES OF VICE."
By Dennis Clyde.

WANTED, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, Aug. 3, and on.
Wire or write.
ARTHUR HINTON.
This, Palace, Scunthorpe.
Next, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

'CELLIST and VIOLINIST.
WANTED, Young Gentleman, for Musical Sketch; brilliant soloists state times convenient for appointment; salary £5. Box 5,778, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted. Wanted, for
"MAGIC."
"MAGIC."
"MAGIC."
By G. K. Chesterton,
the following:—
March 23, 30 (North or Midlands), April 6, 13 (Midlands), June 1, onwards (South).
Only vacant dates next year.
All communications to CHARLES PENLEY, Little Theatre.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery and Properties of every description, Pantos, Sketches, or Stock. First-class work cheap. TURO, Artist, 7, Princess-street, London-road, S.E.

WANTED Known, PHILIPPE R. HOLLI, Composer and Arranger, Bedminster Hippodrome, Bristol; all kinds of music composed and arranged; good readable band parts.

BIRTH— — — — — — — — —
On Dec. 18, at 67, Ashtead-road, Upper Clapton, Mrs. Fred Laurel, of a fine boy; both doing well.

WANTED, Star Turns in all lines for Glasgow and District. Lists of bookings, lithos, terms.
ARTHUR KING, Pickards, Glasgow.

REVUE! REVUE!! REVUE!!!
REVUE! REVUE!! REVUE!!!
REVUE! REVUE!! REVUE!!!
REVUE! REVUE!! REVUE!!!
"HELLO! LITTLE MISS U.S.A."
"HELLO! LITTLE MISS U.S.A."
"HELLO! LITTLE MISS U.S.A."
"HELLO! LITTLE MISS U.S.A."
The Greatest of all Revues.
General Manager, Arthur Beaufort.
Full London Company of recognised artistes.
Smart London Revue Ladies. Gorgeous Costumes.
Special new Scenery.
Splendid Printing by David Allen's.

WANTED, Good Theatres or Halls, Jan. 12 and 19 (North).
Refer Wm. Pardoe, Empire Theatre, Middleton, as to success last week.
All communications,
HAMILTON BAINES, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK.
WANTED, Vac. Feb. 30, on, for Strong Drama, Mus. Com., or Panto ARTHUR KING, Booking Manager, Pickard's, Glasgow.

MR. ARTHUR GIBBONS.
General Theatrical Agent. Plays Produced, Tours booked.
Office hours, 11-5. 'Phone, 4486 Regent.
10, Agar-street, W.C.

WANTED, Lady Dancers, who can do a little Russian Dancing, also Toe Dancing, to Increase Act. Only good dancers need apply, between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. Mr. SEBNER, 5, Daneville-road, Denmark-hill, Camberwell.
Next week, Palace, Hammersmith.

WANTED Known, will Managers and Agents please note that
DAISY CAULDER, the Smart Comedienne, was working Cwmfelinfach, and not Hippo., Ogmore Vale, as billed? There is only one Daisy Cauder. This, P., Pengam; next, Pontygwaith.

WANTED, Wanted, Artistes.
Artistes of all descriptions, now and onwards. ARTHUR KING,
Booking Manager, Pickards, Glasgow.

PICKARD'S, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions. Monday first.
ARTHUR KING, Booking Manager.

WANTED Known, The Merry Maniacs, THREE WALONS,
Wish a Merry Christmas and happy Return Dates, Jazon and Montgomery's "Dick Whittington," Grand, Stalybridge.

WANTED by Picture Pianist and Organist, Re-engagement; experienced Dramatic and Humorous Improvision; up-to-date Library; could provide small Orchestra. 'Phone, 2284 Hornsey, or address, HASTINGS, "Beechwood," Priory-road, Hornsey, N.

PALACE THEATRE,
LUTON.
Thirty Miles from London.

WANTED, Star Comedy Acts,
Jan. 12,
Jan. 12,
Jan. 26,
Jan. 26,
Stars with odd weeks communicate.
MARK LORNE, Manager.

WANTED, Wanted. Wanted,
ORGANIST,
for pipe organ,
at once;
must play piano.
Apply, by letter, 4, Bridge-road, Bedford Park, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, Next Week, Dec. 29, famous SARDONS, Illusionists, Mystifiers; 1,000 laughs in 1,000 seconds; only act of its kind; big holiday attraction. Wire, Palace, Alloa.

WANTED, Violin, 'Cello, or Piccolo Soloist, lady, young and refined, able to play another instrument preferred, for musical act. Terms, photo, ELSIE O'CONNOR, 79, Shobnall-st., Burton-on-Trent.

MR. TRAVIS GREEN'S CO.
"QUEEN OF THE REDSKINS" CO.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 5 and 12.
Jan. 5 and 12.
IBBOTSON, Gaiety, Dundee.

FARMER SKEIN SHAKESPEAREAN TOUR.
WANTED, for Shakespearean Tour, Two Ladies, Two Gentlemen, tall, good appearance, for small parts and understudies.
Address, MANAGER, 28, Bushwood-rd., Kew, Surrey.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S CO.
"THE COLLIER'S LASS."
"THE COLLIER'S LASS."
"THE COLLIER'S LASS."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
The Greatest Production of the Year.
WANTED, Jan. 12, 26, Feb. 2,
Wanted, Jan. 12, 26, and Feb. 2.
Wanted, Jan. 12, 26, and Feb. 2.
Wire Jan. 12.
Wire Jan. 12.
Wire Jan. 12.
A Perfect Production Guaranteed.
Write, J. NEWTON COWLING,
This, Grand, Rawtenstall;
next, T.R., Middlesbrough.

WANTED Known, a young reliable Violinist, with excellent refs. and experienced in playing first-class concert programmes, will be disengaged from Jan. 3. Offers to
ALLAN CLARKE,
16, Elliston-street, New Clee, Grimsby.

WANTED, Good Comedian, to rehearse immediately; send photos, stating age, lowest terms, and references.
HAMILTON BAINES, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, Smart Chorus Ladies for Revue, to rehearse immediately. Send photos, stating age, lowest terms, and references.
HAMILTON BAINES, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, First-class Baritone, to rehearse immediately. Send photos, stating age, lowest terms, and references.
HAMILTON BAINES, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, First or Second; reliable; any business; can open at once. ROBSON,
2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 5, Feb. 2, 9, 16, and on.
Address,
ARTHUR LEIGH,
Prince of Wales Theatre, Grimsby.

London, W.—Sitting and bedroom, bath (h. and c.), piano; highly recommended; moderate, inclusive terms. 106, Frithville Gardens, Shepherd's Bush.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—6, Elmer-avenue. Note number, 6, "St. Olaves," Elmer-avenue; the best of cooking, attention, and comfort; highly recommended.—Mrs. W. F. MOSS.

GRIMSBY.—Mrs. HOLLIDAY, 379, Cleethorpes-road.

MANCHESTER.—16, Grafton-street, Oxford-road. Mrs. HOPE.

MISS MARIE BECKENHAM. Manager, "Oh! I Say!!" Co. Dec. 24 to 28, St. John's Hall, Penzance. Season's Greetings to all friends.

MISS ZERLINA HARRINGTON.
"A Daughter of Pleasure."
Palace, Watford. Next, Hippodrome, Aston.

MISS ETHEL MONTON.
Heavy Lead, "Allah's Orchard" Co. This, Palace, Scunthorpe. Next, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street yesterday:—Present: Messrs. Wyn Weaver (in the chair), H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Frederick James, Frederick Morland, Norman Yates, C. F. Collings, and Duncan Young (secretary), Miss Laura Leycester, and Miss Phyllis Broughton.

The Finance and Agency Committee's report was read by Mr. Frederick Morland, and adopted. The hon. solicitor reported on five cases.

The secretary reported that he had secured the Chandos Hall, Maiden-lane, for the meeting to discuss the twice-nightly system, for Friday, Jan. 9, at 12 noon, to which all members of the profession were cordially invited.

Mr. Morland proposed, and Mr. James seconded, that the following resolution be moved on behalf of the Council:—(1) That the hardship entailed on actors and actresses by the twice-nightly system can only be removed by substituting payment per performance for payment per week. (2) That this concession can only be obtained by organisation on the part of actors and actresses. Further discussion was deferred until the next meeting of the Council.

Mr. Morland and Mr. Yates were elected as representatives of the Council to serve on the Bi-monthly Committee.

The next bi-monthly meeting will be held on Friday afternoon, Jan. 2, 1914, in the rooms of the Association.

Nomination: G. Acton Dix. Elections: Mrs. Henry Renouf, E. J. Ballentine, Lowe McKenzie, Edward Lynton.

SCENIC ADVERTISEMENTS.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Contracts for Painting Scenery, first-class work guaranteed. CECIL E. HICKS and JAMES A. HICKS, Painting Rooms, Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, FRED KARNO'S ILLUSTRICAL FACTORY, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E. All kinds of Scenery, Properties and Electrical effects. Sketches free. The Scenic Factory is equipped with full-sized paint frames, capable of carrying any size cloth. Contracts wanted for above. Telephone: 3550 and 3551 Hop. Telegrams: Karno, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, New or Second-hand; Hire or Purchase. First-class work guaranteed. C. SHARP, Surrey Theatre, London. Tel. 497 Hop. Tel. 4582 Hop.

WANTED Known, Scenic Artist, Chelsea, London, first-class, wants Permanent Engagement, town or provinces; abstainer, reliable; good colourist; good refs.; mod. terms. Address, Box 5,743, "The Era."

WANTED, Contracts for High-class Scenery of Effective Design. Lowest Prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 4, Napier-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, first-class, abstainer, London, Engagement in town or provinces; good colourist and good refs. Low terms for permanent berth. Address, Box 5,777, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Scenery, Flats, Wings, Rostrums, Borders, Cloths. C. SHARP, 272, St. James-road, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, Full-sized Paint Frame; one with room for storage of scenery if possible. Letters, MANAGER, 12, Milner-square, Islington.

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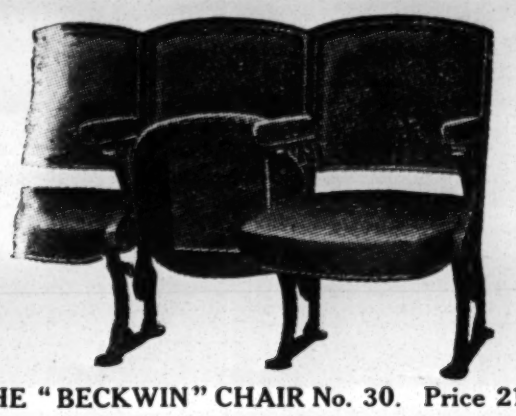

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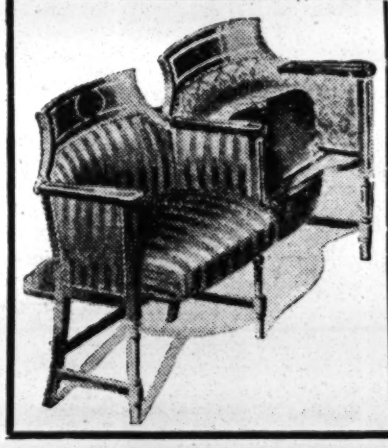

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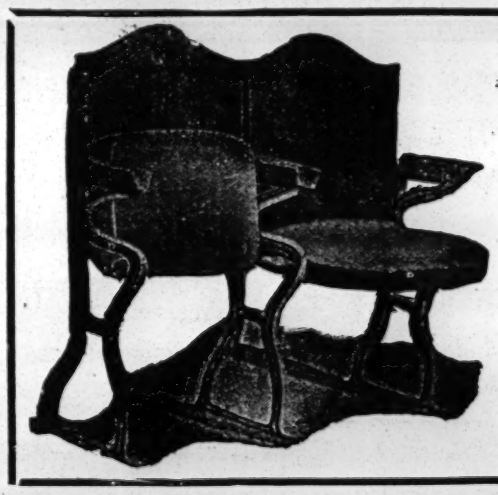

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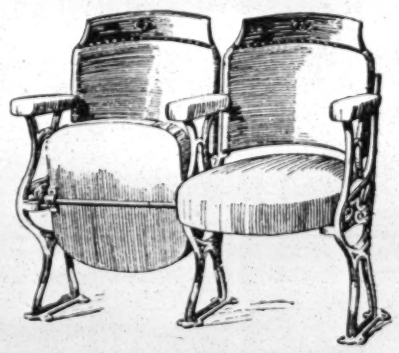

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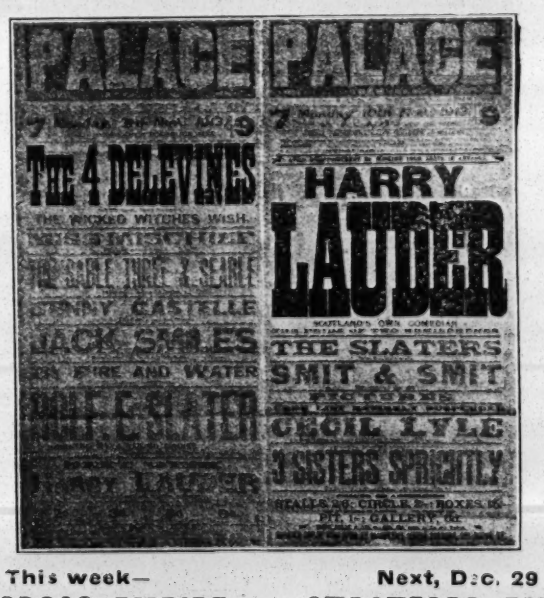

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TERRY, SISTERS (Bella and Minnie) wish all friends a Merry Xmas. Dec. 22, West End Playhouse, Glasgow. Agent, H. Leaton.

WEDBURNS, Comedians, &c. Vacant Dec. 29 and Jan. 5. Address, Palace, Doncaster.

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WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser. This, Empire Palace, Chiswick, London. Next week, Empire Palace, Cardiff. At liberty Feb. 23, 1914. Wire or write above; or Shaw's Agency. A Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year to all.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. This, The Hippodrome, Hamilton. Vacant Jan. 5, 12, 19, and from April 20, on. Share or certainty, if required, with Own Company.

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RE-ADDRESSING.

Artistes using "The Era" Office as their permanent address can have their letters re-addressed immediately on their arrival by giving information to the Manager, "The Era" Letter Department.

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ÆNID CECIL. Comedienne. 6, Hereford-mansions, Bayswater, W. Concerts, Banquets, &c. Offers for Summer invited. 'Phone, Park 172.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, DEC. 29, 1913

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"Hullo, Tango!" Bioscope, Bransby Williams, Irene Millar, Tony, Takiness.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. An Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Master Edward Garrett, Hewitt and Lena, Hill, Cherry and Hill, Phil Ray, Gertie Gitana, Billy Williams, Spencer Quintette, Chas. Olcott, Ross and Lewis, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:
Harry Thurston, Hanlon Bros., Ted and May Hopkins, American Ragtime Octette, Barclay Gammon, Mabel Sinclair, Bioscope, Ferroll Bros., Martini Trio, Devona and Earle.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Harry Day and Edward Laurie's Pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Bioscope, Trixie Marris, Tom Jones, "I Shon'd Say So," The Krakes, Deleviues, Herbert La Martini.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Fielding and Hull, Leonard Robson and Co., Picture Entertainment.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
J. A. Wilson, Mdlle. De Dio Coram, Ina Lorimer, "Cowboy and the Girl," Bioscope, Alfred Leonard Trio, The Mackweys, Dave Bryant.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
De Breans, Three Regals, "The White Mother," Fred Dyer, Four Londons, Bioscope, Lucy Lynd, George Benson, Master Garnett, Russell Brandon.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:
O'Gorman Bros., Howard and Harris, Pipifax and Panlo, Bioscope, David Paget, Les Andres, Robins Collier Trio, Hunt and Thomas, Franco Piper.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—
Marjorie Dean, John Weil, Picture Entertainment.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Frantz Bohm, Mazeppa and Zita, Picture Entertainment.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
The Maples, Halma Fred Land, "Concealed Red," Zgeuner Quartette, Max Hart's Six Steppers, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Sayton Trio, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Al Barley, the Maxwells, Walker and Lake, Chas. Whittle, Zona Vevey, Velouche's Dogs, Bioscope, Thornley Dodge, The Maxwells, Emerald and Dupre.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Harry Day & Edward Laurie's Pantomime, "Aladdin" (2nd Week).

GRAND, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Harry Day & Edward Laurie's Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Curran, Kullervo Bros., Alva etto Rego and Stonjt, Baker and Bunn, Beaumont Trio, O'Hanlon and Rivkin, Beaumont Collins, Florence Turner, Bioscope.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Vilmos Western Music Trio, "How D'Ye Do," Bioscope, Four Pattans, Sisters Le Roy.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Four Vandykes, Edith Chantler, Pat Cohen, Pictures.

NEWTOWN PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Opens January 1.
Rehearsal at 12.0 noon for Company as Booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Christine Roy, Four Holdways, Crumbley and Glass, Miss Bessie Fowler, Arthur Roberts, Bioscope, Frisco Girls, Brull Hemsley, Sherard Long, James Stewart.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Great Olympia Circus (2nd week).

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Atlas and Collins, Jack Lorimer, Motley Four, La Mire, Stelle Shi, Sisters Rose and Sis, Wilfred Bursand, Huxter Bros., Bioscope, Billy Hoobs.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Frank Wilson, Horace Hunter, Barr and Hope, Radford and Valentine, Kitty Dale, Phil Parsons, Alfred H. West, Bioscope, Belle and Bijou.

EMPIRE PALACE SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Tom E. Hughes, John and Lilian Grand, Griffin and Ardell, Frank and Vesta Chung Ling Soo, Hugh J. Emmett, Bioscope, Majorie Dawson, Fred Wilton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Forest Tell, Rosie Ache, "Saving Silver City," Marno and Lena, Victoria Monks, Austin and Rudd, Bioscope, Campbell and Scott, Chris Van Beem.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Tochi and Taud, Three Bucklays, Jock Whiteford, "What a Game," Bioscope, Arthur Woodville, Mansell's Juveniles.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Julia Kent, Hunter and Bob, Julian Ross, Mark Sheridan, Terry and Lambert, Magini, Harry Herbert, Bioscope, Francis and Alfris.

NEW EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Picture Entertainment.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Seven Bramsas, Sandy McNab, Paulton and Dooley, Two Britons, Columbia Trio, Herbert Brooks, Karno's "Steam Laundry."

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as Booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
George Rae, Frank Armstrong, Harry Freeman, Stewart and Marian, Friend and Downing, Dancing Middies, Helen Moray.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Dezso Kordy and Co., Eretto Troupe, Nora Freely, Gordon's Comedians, Murray and May, Edna Deno, Little Ella, Pictures, Bryan O'Sullivan.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Six Gordons, Terse and Sherpe, Pictures, May Newell, Musical Boldens, Pathe Gazette, Forbes and Forbes, Rowsons.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Harry Day's "Cinderella" (Sights).

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Picture Entertainment, Illustrated Songs, &c.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Finetta Sisters, Walter Deane, Pictures.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fireproofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (*a*) West End, (*b*) Suburban, (*c*) Large and (*d*) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinees are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields**, at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (*a*) in the case of singers copies of the songs and patter, (*b*) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's License, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.

(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager**, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

Mr. FRANK ALLEN, *Managing Director*
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Calls for Monday, Dec. 29, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30
Philip Braham's Co., George Prince, May Henderson, Horne Bros., Syd May, Beattie and Babs, Four Amaranths, Mal olm Scott, The Kasracs, Hayman and Franklin, Anna Dorothy.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12
E. C. Rolls' Co., Chas. Aldrich, George Formby, Sam Stern, Mary Law, La Belle Nello, Jewel S. Leyer, Achmid Ibraham Troupe, Peggy Pryde, Tom Woottwell.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12
Cinquevalli, George Formby, Beattie and Babs. Nella Webb, Jock McKay, Cooper Mitchell, Elsie Faye and Co., Vernon Watson, Fritzi Von Derra, Three Lumars, Kenneth Casey.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45
Dr. Cook, Olgar, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, John Macauley, Jessie Lee, Chinko, Lloyd Morgan, Rosie Lloyd, Minnie Kaufmann, Owen Clark, Sam Stern, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12
Wentworth Croke's Grand Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12
John Lawson and Co., George Formby, Kitchen and Foy, Tom Leamore, Evelyn Taylor, Elsie Kerry, 11 Romps, Scott and Whalley, Ernest H. Mills, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12
John Lawson and Co., Tom Woottwell, "Why the Woman Told," Marie Kendal, Elsie Faye & Co., Walter Emerson, Gwennie Hasto, 11 Romps, Montes and Welma, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1
R. C. Buchanan's Grand Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12
Wentworth Croke's Grand Pantomime "Cinderella."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12
F. Carpenter's Grand Pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk."

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12
6 Bros. Luck Ltd., The Craggs, Veronica Brady, Ryder Slone, Mabel Costello, Carpentier-Wells Film, Will Norrie, The Crisps, Harry Hudson, Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1
F. Carpenter's Grand Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

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The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members:—The Mowatts, Wellman, Stanley Howard, Musical Baldwins, Muscatels, Josephine Davis, Overgrands, Romanoff and Hazel Glade.

Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

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ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR DECEMBER 29, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Always Tell Your Wife," Margaret Cooper, Oswald Williams, Boganny's "Lunatic Bakers," Femina Quartette, J. H. Scotland, Bioscope.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Mme. B. Rasimi's Revue "Cachez Ca," De Nanteuil, You-You, Gill Duc, Selection, Bioscope.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Vesta Victoria, Wild Australia, T. E. Dunville, Emeric and Ajmalie in "Sold Out," Dorothy Iancredi, Daphne Wynne, The Musical Johnstons, Dexter, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Co. in "Her Wedding Night," Merian's Canine Dramatic Company, The Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Thora, Scamp and Scamp, Happy Tom Parker, Little Marina, Edris Coombs, Evelyn Stoll, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Berte Coote and Co., Gordon Eldrid and Co., Chanti, The Three Rascals, Ackroyds, Albert Rees, Tony Black, Richards Wally, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Berte Coote and Co. in "A Lamb on Wall Street," Solo, The Slave Dealers, Mirza Golem Troupe, Jen Latona, Fred Keeton, Thornbury, Lilian French, Hanbury and Schofield, Sisters Jerome, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
"Oh! Joy!" Ernest Scharff, Hurl and Ford, Jane Ayr, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"The Flood," The Harlequinaders, Les Grohs, Crystal and Saville, The Four Wards, Cissie Curlette, Bioscope.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Cinderella," Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
"Mind Your Backs," Nixon Grey, Tom Costello, Hinton and Wooton, G. S. Melvin, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Say When," Lamberti, Ernest Shand, Nelson Jackson, Conway George, Three Cape Girls, Bioscope.

FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.
Pictures.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.
NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—
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BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.
ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.
STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.
COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.
ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.
BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c. submitted for consideration.

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